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THE PITTSBURGH POST.

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ONE BY ONE.

One by one the sands are flowing,
One by one the moments fall;
Some are coming, some are going,
Do not strive to grasp them all.

One by one thy duties wait thee,
Let thy whole strength go to each;
Let no future dreams elate thee,
Learn thou first what these can teach.

One by one, bright gifts of heaven,
Joys are sent thee here below;
Take them readily when given—
Ready too to let them go.

One by one thy griefs shall meet thee,
Do not fear an armed band;
One will fade while others greet thee,
Shadows passing through the land.

Do not look at life's long sorrow,
See how small each moment's pain;
God will help thee for to-morrow—
Every day begin again.

Every hour that fleets so slowly,
Has its task to do or bear;
Luminous the crown, and holy,
If thou act each gem with care.

Do not linger with regretting,
Or for passion's hour despond;
Nor, the daily toil forgetting,
Look too eagerly beyond.

Hours are golden links, God's token,
Reaching heaven, but one by one
Take them, lest the chain be broken,
Ere the pilgrimage be done.

THE VILLAGE ANGEL.

Emily Wharton was the pet and pride of Riverdale. The old men reverently called her the "village angel," the young men admired her by day and dreamed of her by night; and even her companions of her own sex felt for her a pure regard, free from the least taint of envy or jealousy. Had any one asked if she was beautiful, the reply would have been: "I'm sure I don't know; but she is so good we all love her; we can't help it." And if you, dear reader, had seen her, no time could efface the memory of her glossy brown hair, her deep, tender eyes, of a dark gray, and her fair, round face, with gentleness, and patience shining from every feature. You might deny that she was really pretty, but you would have to admit that she possessed charms superior to those of personal loveliness.

What little of romance there had been in Emily's quietly happy life, she had made herself, while quietly working for quite another object. Her parents being the wealthiest people in town, and her own heart prompting her to take the most worthy advantage of this blessing, she had often helped those in need, and accomplished it in such a quiet way, that she avoided the ostentation of charity, and caused the recipients to feel a thankfulness unburdened by any sense of humiliating obligation.

It was one summer afternoon, when sitting with her mother on the piazza of their elegant cottage, that Emily saw a young man staggering under the weight of a heavy barrow filled with vegetables. He was coming up the road, and as he drew near she saw that his face was very pale, and bore only too plainly the marks of care and sorrow. She watched him as he advanced, her face revealing the sudden sympathy which his appearance had inspired in her heart.

Reaching the house directly opposite, the young man let his barrow rest upon the walk, and opened the gate; then moving forward his load, he essayed to enter, but the gate swung to, barring his progress. Again he tried, and with the same result. Wiping the perspiration from his brow, he looked about for something with which to hold the gate in position, and at that moment a slight, girlish figure swept by him, and a sweet voice said: "I will hold it while you come in."

Surprised and not a little embarrassed, he regarded her for a moment in silence; then while gratitude shone from his dark eyes, he replied:

"You are very kind, miss; I thank you."

And he wheeled his burden into the yard, glancing almost reverently at his gentle assistant.

"My mother thinks you have not been long in our village," said Emily, shyly.

"No, only three days, I'm a stranger, you see, and I don't get much work, but I shall, by and by, I think," and a faint smile passed over his features.

"Papa has lots of work to be done; he might give you some, if he only knew your name," continued the maiden, sagaciously.

"Thank you. My name is Thomas Wilson, and—and I live on the flats." He spoke hesitatingly, and blushed as he mentioned the name of the poorest locality in the town. Presently he looked up, but his companion was gone, and was now sitting on the piazza again, as quietly as if she had not moved at all.

"That name drove her off," mused Thomas, as he went on with his load. "Well, I don't wonder. It's a low place. But she was kind; there are mighty few girls would do what she did."

That evening, while Emily and her father were conversing,—she trying to find out if he knew anything of the Wilson family, and he wondering what "the darling little witch was driving at,"—the neighbor across the way came in and shortly referred to the incident of the afternoon, and added:

"It was good in you Emily, very good; but they are rather low people these Wilsons. They lived in Daymouth before they came here; in fact, the old man died there. He was a hard one, it is said, and drank himself to death. I don't know, but I shouldn't wonder if the boy took after him, for he won't work steady. I hired him the first day he came here, and he was off in the afternoon; and the next morning he looked pale, and his eyes were red. I really don't believe he is of much account."

Emily who was very far from sharing the caller's suspicions, was about to say that other things than drink caused pallor of the features and redness of the eyes, but, thinking that time used in argument is generally thrown away, she held her peace, and resolved to ascertain the facts for herself.

Slipping quietly out of the room, she assumed her habit, and then ordered her pony saddled. As it was nothing unusual for her to ride on moonlight nights, neither of her parents asked a question, and she galloped away on her mission, undisturbed. Reaching the flats—a place she had often visited upon errands of mercy,—she dismounted and inquired in what house Mr. Wilson lived. The woman directed her, with an ominous shake of her head, and Emily, reflecting upon the force of prejudice among all classes, pursued her way on foot, leading the pony by the bridle.

The smallest, oldest, and dirtiest of all the habitations on the flats was the one which had been pointed out to her. Hitching the pony to a staple in the window-sill—for there was no other place, not a tree or shrub growing in the vicinity,—Emily knocked upon the door and awaited with peculiar feelings the answer. It soon came in the person of Thomas, who for a moment was rendered speechless by surprise; then, in a voice which revealed both pain and mortification, he said:

"Will you come in? You will find it a wretched place' but we can't help it just now."

Emily made no reply, but followed him into the house. In the first room were a table, three chairs, an old cooking-stove and an old-fashioned washstand. In one of the chairs, curled up asleep, was a little girl of about five summers, her long, black hair falling over a thin pale face, on which tear stains were yet visible. Thomas saw Emily glance at the child, and he simply said: "My sister." But there was anguish in every accent. "My mother is in the next room. Would you like to see her?" he added, presently. The maiden inclined her head, and followed him into the chamber, where, upon a low, cot bed, lay a woman evidently in the last stages of consumption. Her skin was nearly transparent, and her eyes, large and black, gave to her countenance a brilliancy weird, almost frightful. As Emily entered, the invalid glanced upon her inquiringly, and said:

"Curiosity is sometimes cruelty. Why did you come?"

"With the hope of being met as a friend," answered Emily, with gentle reproof, at the same time placing her hand on the sufferer's brow.

"Forgive me, but there is so much coldness in this world, so little love. Oh! I remember now; you are the young lady who helped Tom this afternoon. Poor Tom! he is nearly worn out. He tries to work outside, and take care of Alice and me too; but he can't do it all, so he has let outside work go sometimes, and then, I suppose, his employers think he is idle. It weakened me very much moving, and I have not been so well since. What do people say of us, miss?"

She paused for an answer, but Emily evaded the question, and then the woman went on: "Yes, it is always so; you wish to spare my feelings; your motive is good, but I can see through it. My husband's misfortunes first set him on the downward path, and then by degrees poverty came until all was lost. Now we must bear his unfortunate reputation, but not long—not long." She raised her eyes heavenward, as if imploring death.

"Dear mother, do not speak so; you are all I have on earth," said Tom, in a tremulous voice.

"My dear boy—my life—my blessing!" she murmured, tenderly.

Emily's eyes filled with tears as she saw the mother's wan hand caress the jetty curls that fell on her son's brow. Then, hoping to cheer them, she said "You will be better soon, Mrs. Wilson. Do not give way to sadness. Remember I am your friend." The invalid smiled faintly, and shook her head. Knowing that further conversation would be injurious to her, Emily bade her adieu, closing the chamber door as she went out. Once again in the front room, the maiden said: "Mr. Wilson will you do me a favor?" He acquiesced, wonderingly, and Emily, placing a ten dollar note in his hand, added: "Run down to the store and buy what your mother needs; be sure not to forget fruit and jellies."

"God bless your bright face," he murmured, in a choked voice, and impressively pressed her hand.

"I will stay here until you return," she said, as he took his hat and hurried away. When the young man returned he found the kettle singing over the fire, and the table set, while little Alice, who had been awakened by the cheerful sound, sat up in her chair, gazing at Emily in amazement. You are too good, miss; I did not believe that there was one left in the world as good as you are," said Tom, regarding her as if she was something more than human. "Don't praise me, but take out your bundles, and I'll have supper presently. Of course you got some steak?"

"Yes, though I was afraid I was doing wrong."

Emily reproved him for that sentence, and then went on with her preparations. In a short time a repast, which, to Tom and Alice seemed a banquet, was placed on the table, and then Emily departed, saying she would come on the morrow and wash the dishes. Tom's gaze followed her until she was invisible, when he returned to the house, dropped on his knees beside his mother's bed and thanked God for the friend which had been sent to them when starvation seemed inevitable.

The next day, and every day for a week, Emily Wharton brought the sunlight of her presence to that wretched abode, and cheered and comforted the invalid and her children, not forgetting to enlist the services of the village physician in the same cause. But he could do little for the sufferer; she could only be made easy during her brief stay on earth—she could not recover. And at length the time came when his words were to be verified, and Tom Wilson, standing at the side of the little couch, knew that his mother would not live an hour. Oh, if Emily would only come! He could not bear this terrible blow alone, with little Alice clinging to him in fear. And still the terrible minutes dragged on, and at length Emily came and stood at his side, and to make him stronger she took one of his hands in her own. Together the three looked down upon the blanched face and wasted form of the invalid, and saw the chest move with labored effort, and the lips as if praying for air. Great sobs shook the son's breast, and tears rolled down his cheeks, and at intervals, the words came forth in convulsive whispers: "Oh, God! God! must I loose my mother?" She heard him once, and tried to smile, but she had not the strength, and instead she worked her hand along the counterpane until it touched his. That destroyed the last particle of his self-control, and, sinking upon his knees, he wept as only a man can weep when anguish makes him a child before his Creator.

"Tom," said Emily, in a low voice. He arose just in time to see the last pulsation of his mother's heart. She had gone forever. Weakened by grief, he turned toward Emily, and gazed upon her imploringly.

"Be calm, dear friend," she said tearfully.

"Oh, Emily, you are all that I have left! Oh, Emily, if I dared to love you——" He paused, and his body shook like a leaf. Again he spoke: "Emily, next to her I loved you. May I?"

"Yes, Tom," and thus they were betrothed in the presence of death.

* * * * *

Five years had passed since the night when Emily gave Tom her promise at the bedside of his dead mother. Very long and weary had been those years, many heartaches, some doubts, and many fears had come and gone, only to come and go again. Emily was now twenty-three years old, and looked upon by the villagers as an old maid, not that she was less attractive, but because she had refused so many lovers, some kistinguished and some rich.

"My child, my dear Emily," said her father, one evening, when they were sitting on the piazza, in the very same place where she had first seen her only accepted lover, "I think you have done your duty in waiting. Your life is your own, and from the fact that you have not heard from Tom for two years, it is not likely that you will ever hear from him again."

"Don't, father! Oh, please, don't," said Emily shuddering.

"My precious daughter, I would not pain you for the world. It is only my love for you that causes me to speak thus. You proved to me that Tom was good-else I would not have sanctioned the engagement. He went away to make his fortune, taking with him his little sister. It is sad to think of anything having happened to him, but time and silence indicate something."

"He will come back, father," she replied, a far-off, dreamy look in her eyes. "Tom will come back."

The old gentleman shook his head, and, rising went into the house. He felt that his daughter was throwing her life away; and such a noble life as hers! It made him unspeakably sad.

Still, time went on; six months passed but Emily only grew stronger in her belief that Tom would come back. "It is a monomania with her," the villagers said, and with grief, for it was dreadful to see the fairest flower thus wither. But one morning Emily came down stairs singing and looking like her former self; and her parents wondered, for, of late, she had been pensive and listless. The day drew to a close, and just at twilight a carriage dashed up to the door, and immediately there alighted a tall, noble-looking man, who presently assisted a very beautiful young girl to alight. Together they came up the steps and into the house. Emily, standing in the parlor, pressed her hands to her heart, and grew faint with anticipation. Presently the door opened and the gentleman entered.

"At last, my darling," he said, kissing her pale face and smothing her hair. "At last! Oh, how I have prayed for this hour. I've been far away, Emily, in foreign lands, but the star of home has always shone bright. I knew you'd be true, Emily, for God gave you to me when he took my mother."

"And I knew you'd come back, dearest."

Six weeks later Emily became Mrs. Wilson, and a happier home than theirs does not exist. Little Alice lives with them yet, but ere long she, too will have a home of her own.

VARIETIES.

A YOUNG lady recently betrothed says that C. O. D." (Cash on Delivery) means "Call on Dad."

A THRIFTY housewife thinks that men ought to be useful—they might as well be smoking hams as smoking cigars.

"SHALL I have your hand?" said an exquisite to a belle, as the dance was about to commence. "With all my heart," was the soft response.

A LONDON tailor advertises "garments cut not only to fit, and in the best style but regulating any disproportions that may exist, and enhancing the correct contour of the proportionate."

AN Indiana paper describes the feast of a legislative delegation at a railroad dinner. The reporter narrates the facts in the case very pointedly. "The delegates set at 3 P. M. They upset at 5."

NEW YORK has started an establishment on Sixth avenue, at which he who would shine as a dandy for an evening can hire a clean shirt, white necktie, gloves and dress suit at a very moderate price.

A COLORED man was arrested in Covington, Ky., for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. Upon being searched a dead frog and an old dried-up grasshopper were found in his pocket-book, which he said he said he carried for luck.

A NEW YORK correspondent says; "Joseph Jefferson is still at his home in Hohokus, a manufacturing village in Bergen county, New Jersey, on the Erie railway, twenty-five miles from the city. I mention this particularly because the place is so frequently printed Hoboken. Jefferson's eyes, which were thought to have quite recovered, do not improve, and some of the oculists who have attended him have very little hopes of his getting any better. The medical gentlemen even have fears that the comedian's brain is affected, and that he will never be in a condition warranting his return to the stage."

EVERY DAY.

Oh, trifling tasks so often done,
Yet ever to be done anew!
O cares, which come with every sun,
Morn after morn, the long years through:
We shrink beneath their paltry sway,
The irksome calls of every day.

The restless sense of wasted power,
The tiresome round of little things,
Are hard to bear as hour by hour
Its tedious iteration brings:
Who shall evade or who delay
The small demands of every day?

The bowlder in the torrent's course,
By tide and tempest lashed in vain,
Obeys the wave-whirled pebble's force,
And yields its substance grain by grain;
So crumble strongest lives away
Beneath the wear of every day.

Who finds the lion in his lair,
Who tracks the tiger for his life,
May wound them ere they are aware,
Or conquer them in desperate strife;
Yet powerless he to scathe or slay
The vexing gnats of every day.

The steady strains that never stops
Is mightier than the fiercest shock,
The constant fall of water-drops
Will groove the adamantine rock;
We feel our noble powers decay
In feeble wars with every day.

We rise to meet a heavy blow—
Our souls a sudden bravery fills—
But we endure not always so
The drop by drop of little ills;
We still deplore and still obey
The harsh behests of every day.

The heart which boldly faces death
Upon the battle-field, and dares
Cannon and bayonet, faints beneath
The needle-points of frets and cares;
The stoutest spirits they dismay—
The tiny stings of every day.

And even saints of holy fame,
Whose souls by faith have overcome,
Who wore amid the cruel flame
The molten crown of martyrdom,
Bore not without complaint alway
The petty pains of every day.

FASHIONS IN MOURNING.

The material most desirable for heavy suits of mourning is called imperial serge, according to Harper's Bazar. This is a heavy, double-twilled, lustreless fabric, softer than ordinary serge, and which falls into graceful folds. When trimmed with English crape it is suitable for the first deep mourning; it may also be worn when mourning dresses are laid aside; an advantage not possessed by other fabrics. The price is $2 50 or $2 75 a yard. Bombazine is still regarded by many ladies as necessary dress for the deepest mourning. English bombazine may be worn during all seasons of the year, and costs from $2 to $4 a yard; the more lustrous French bombazine is of a light quality not suitable for winter.

The first dresses worn by widows are now made of bombazine literally covered with English crape, the breadths of the skirt and each piece of the plain basque and tight sleeves are cut alike of bombazine and of crape, and they are sewed together seam by seam. Merchants say the mourning fabric is more called for than all others this season is Henrietta cloth. This goods is softer and smoother than bombazine, with a close irregular twill like cashmere, and is entirely without lustre. It cost from $1 50 to $3 a yard. Valerian cord cloth is a soft pure-wool goods, excellent for wear on account of its lengthwise reps that are so easily brushed clean. It is thirty inches wide, and costs $1 a yard. The tamise cloth used for street suits in the fall and spring is an excellent fabric for house dresses in winter, though not sufficiently heavy for out-of-door costumes. This is merely fine delaine, with thick, even threads of dull black, forming a smooth, perfectly lustreless surface. It measures a yard, and in some cases a yard and a quarter, in width, and costs from $1 to $1 75 a yard. The demi-lustre alpacas and mohairs are the best fabrics for serviceable house dresses to be worn by ladies when attending to domestic duties.

The styles in favor for making colored dresses are repeated in those designed for mourning. The basque and over-skirt, or the basque and apron, with skirt trimmed to the waist, and the polonaise with single skirt, are all made in the materials just described; but they differ from ordinary black dresses in their trimming. English crape is now associated with almost all black goods; not alone in folds and pipings, as it was formerly used, but in plaited and gathered flounces. Very deep kilt plaiting, laid in flat broad plaits two or three inches wide, is the most effective trimming for the skirts of mourning dresses. This may be made entirely of crape or of the dress material, or else the plaits may be alternately of crape and bombazine. The plaiting should cover seven eights of a yard of the skirt; a narrow bias band is the only heading and this should be concealed by the lower part of the over-skirt for polonaise. Tapes underneath the plaits hold them in position. The lower edge of the kilting is hemmed, and hangs separately from the dress skirt, instead of being sewed in with the facing as it was formerly done. French dresses of bombazine and serge have gathered bias crape flounces, but the thin flounces look flimsy, and the shells are too fanciful for mourning. Another skirt trimming that is much admired is a deep kilt plaiting alternately of crape and bombazine on the front breadths, while the back widths are covered to the waist with five flounces laid in narrower plaits, and piped with crape on the lower edge. A small apron covers the upper part of the front breadth, and a series of crape loops forms a ladder down the sides where the plaits and flounces meet.

The handsomest trimming for the basques of black dresses is a fichu-collar of English crape. This is simply a smooth bias band of crape about three inches wide, lined with stiff foundation, made perfectly plain, slightly shaped to fit the back of the neck, crossed in front like a fichu, and fastened low down on the waist by hooks and loops. Plain vests of crape laid on the basque and square cuffs to match are also used. Instead of edging a basque with a plaiting, or frill, or bias band, it is now considered more stylish to have merely a facing of crape an inch wide on the wrong side, but showing the merest piping fold on the right side; this facing is sometimes turned upon the side seams to form revers. The jocky basque as plain as a riding habit, and the postilion with black plaits pressed flatly, are the favorite corsages for mourning dresses. These are made very close and high in the neck, and are fastened by large buttons—wooden moulds covered with two or three thicknesses of crape. Sleeves are tight to the arm, with deep cuffs formed of small folds, or else a square plain cuff to match the fichu collar. Modistes place a narrow box-plaiting of double crape inside the neck and sleeves of dresses for fresh mourning. A very simple apron-front polonaise is popular with mourning dresses.

FARM NOTES.

FARM LABOR.

Those who are engaged in cultivating the soil in the older section of the country are troubled to get sufficient help to perform the ordinary labor of the farm. Skilled help is out of the question; other business can employ it at higher wages than agriculture can afford: only the poorest and most inefficient are left for the farm. Mr. O'Flannigan is a fair type of the intelligence of ordinary farm hands, and the supply of this kind of help is not equal to the demand. Many do not attempt permanent improvements from this cause.

The price of labor has doubled since the years just preceding the war, with quite a falling in quality. Produce brings no more than in those years. We must have cheaper, or better prices. An equilibrium must be reached in some way, or the farming interest must materially decline. The raising of crops at a loss will not long be persisted in.

For some cause farm labor is not popular; men will work on railroads and public works at a less price; the pleasure of associating together and living in cities and towns renders the isolation and quiet of farm life unendurable.

So unpopular has domestic service become that female help can hardly be had at any price. Almost any employment or means of subsistence will be accepted in preference, the inconvenience arising from the want of suitable help in-doors is very great. In case of sickness it is a positive hardship; I have known good families to suffer from want of some one to prepare the necessary comforts, and in some cases, but for the kindness of neighbors, the sick would have received no care.

The story of poor sewing women in cities does not excite much sympathy from the dwellers in the country, who would gladly give them good homes and fair wages; there would be no danger from starvation, and something could be accumulated for support in old age.

The use of improved implements and machines has done much to revolutionize labor; without them it would be impossible to do our farm work. One must be a good mechanic to keep in order and operate successfully the implements of the present time; skill and knowledge improves and develops the mind. No avocation or profession requires a more varied and extensive knowledge at present than to be a scientific farmer. While we rejoice to see the cultivators of the soil taking a higher position than ever before, we deplore the want of able and intelligent assistants. Could we afford to employ such help as we should like, farming would become much more pleasant and attractive than at present. We do not wish to degrade the laborer in order to accomplish this. We desire no pauper labor in this country, but such a condition of things inaugurated that the capital and skill of the employer be as well paid as the laborer.

What I have written does not accord with the teachings of some of our writers and speakers, some of whom are ignorant of practical agriculture; judging from their teachings, one would suppose that there were no drawbacks to our business, but I have written from what has actually occurred in my own experience and that of my friends and neighbors, and which I have good reason to suppose exists in all parts of the country, hoping the time may come when these evils may, in a measure at least, be remedied.—[W. Brown, in Country Genlleman.

FALL MANAGEMENT OF COWS.

The dairy interest is so great a part of stock farming that it requires more attention from the dairyman than he is accustomed to give it. There is much more talk about fine horses and fine trotters; yet the products of the dairy would every year more than pay for all the horses raised in the country.

A little extra feed will cause a good flow of milk late in the season, and this fall milk will produce from fifteen to twenty per cent. more butter to a given quantity, than in June or July. It is the amount of milk that a cow gives in a year that fixes her value, and not the quantity she gives in a month or two, while the grass is at its best. And a good cow cannot give a uniform mess of milk unless she is fed uniformly; her milk is made from the food, and that must be of such quantity and quality as will produce the best flow of milk and keep up her condition.

The dairy districts are subject to seasons of drought, as during the past two, when the pastures are quite inadequate to produce a good flow of milk, or even to keep the cow in good condition. Those dairymen who were prudent provided against this contingency by sowing corn, millet or Hungarian grass, and can now give their cows full rations and get a full flow of milk. But those who have not provided corn or other fodder for short pasture in the fall, should now make up the deficiency in grain or middlings. This grain will be paid for, first, in the extra quality of milk, which is worth at least one cent per pound for butter, and every pound of grain or middling will produce one and a half pounds of milk. And second, it will be paid for in the condition of the cow. Cows poorly fed will be in such low condition at the beginning of cold weather, as to require much more food to winter them. This will be saved by getting them in good condition in the fall. It requires one-sixth less food to put an animal in condition in warm than cold weather. If the dairyman expects his cows to be profitable, he must look after their comfort, both as to food and shelter. The rain storms of October are often such as cows would be better to be protected from, and this is easily done by putting them in stable. Those who have tested it find the shrinkage of milk very large when cows are exposed to storms. One dairymen keeping seventy-five cows told us that a heavy rain, even in July, reduced the milk two pounds per head. The cow is one of man's best servants, and he should show himself mindful of her wants.—[Live Stock Journal.

XLII CONGRESS.

THIRD SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, December 3, 1872.

A Short Session.

After the reading of the journal, Mr. CAMERON moved that the Senate adjourn.

Mr. FENTON asked him to withdraw his motion temporarily.

Mr. CAMERON said he must insist upon his motion.

Mr. FENTON—I appeal to my friend to withdraw his motion. I wish to move that when the Senate adjourns it adjourn to meet on Thursday.

The VICE-PRESIDENT ruled Mr. Fenton's motion out of order.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE.

Mr. BOREMAN, member elect from Louisiana, was sworn in.

Mr. KELLOGG (Conn.) introduced a bill to repeal the stamp tax on bank checks and notes. Referred.

The Greenback Reissue.

Mr. RANDALL offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to what law authorizes him to make an increased issue of legal tender as was done in October last and whether such issue was made in the legal tenders heretofore retired or in new ones, &c. Adopted.

A bill was introduced by Mr. MAYNARD for the relief of the State of Tennessee. Referred.

Mr. PERCE asked leave to introduce and put on passage a bill to regulate the payment of female employees of the Government.

Mr. CONGER objected.

The Credit Mobilier Committee.

Mr. BECK, (Ky.,) asked to be and was excused from service on the Select Committee appointed yesterday for the Oakes Ames investigation on the ground that during the recent canvass he had expressed a decided opinion on the subject.

Mr. COX took the chair as Speaker *pro tem.*, and appointed Mr. Merrick (Md.) to fill the place of Mr. Beck in the Committee.

The Freedman's Bureau.

Mr. WOOD offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for a copy of the report of General Vincent, assistant Adjutant General on the condition of affairs of the Freedman's Bureau. Adopted.

Mr. SCOFIELD, (Pa.) from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to authorize the construction of

Ten Steam Vessels of War,

and appropriating three millions for that purpose. The vessels are to carry each ten or more guns of large calibre, and the hulls are to be either iron or wood, as the Secretary of the Navy may determine.

Mr. HALE (Me.) offered an amendment, that not less than five of the ten vessels shall be constructed in private yards in the United States under contract.

Mr. RANDALL (Pa.) advocated the amendment, but thought the bill too loosely drawn, and that it left too much discretion to the Secretary of the Navy.

Mr. SCOFIELD (Pa.) replied to Mr. Randall's strictures, arguing that the more restrictions were placed on the Secretary the less security there would be to have the work properly done.

Mr. POTTER (N. Y.) asked to what use these vessels were to be applied.

Mr. SCOFIELD replied that they would be used to keep our squadrons full in the different seas, and for the protection of commerce.

Mr. SHELLABARGER (Ohio) gave it as his judgment that a system ought to be initiated which would be harmonious in plan, in idea and in ultimate consummation. He believed it wise to put upon the seas a class of vessels, that would have speed, have size and have adaptation for

The Protection of Commerce.

He thought it wise to guard, limit, specify and qualify the description of ships to be built.

Mr. SCOFIELD remarked that the ideas expressed by the gentleman from Ohio corresponded with the purpose of the committee.

Mr. COX (N. Y.) suggested a reduction of the number of vessels from ten to five.

Mr BANKS said that he had introduced this bill last session in anticipation of trouble with Spain, and the affairs in the Gulf of Mexico had not improved much since then. No one knew what might occur there any day, and it was proper to be prepared for all contingencies.

Mr. POTTER inquired as to the proposed size of these vessels.

Mr. SCOFIELD considered that four hundred or five hundred tons would be large enough. He did not suppose that any of them would exceed one thousand tons. He referred to Mr. Banks as having sympathized with the effort to involve the country in

War with Spain.

Mr. BANKS denied that he had ever sympathized with such efforts. He had introduced a bill, because the Secretary had declared to members of the House that he was afraid events had occurred in the Gulf of Mexico which would require the government to be prepared to defend their commerce.

Mr. SCOFILD said he was opposed to Mr. Hale's amendment, because the Navy Department was prepared to construct iron vessels in the Navy Yards of New York, Boston and Washington.

The morning expired, and the bill went over till to-morrow.

On a motion to print the voluminous document sent in by the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. BROOKS made remarks as to the reckless extravagance in public printing. He said his house was cumbered with public documents which were of no use, and gave notice that he would sell them all at public auction and turn over the proceeds to the contingent fund of the House.

On motion of Mr. BANKS, the bill to carry out the fishery clauses of the treaty of Washington was made the special order for the second Tuesday of January, and the House adjourned.

Weekly Post.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, Dec. 7, 1872

THE *Dispatch* keeps remarkably shady just now in regard to the admission of colored children to white schools. Is it for or against, or does it prefer to keep mum?

THE MEADE memorial fund which was intended to be fifty thousand dollars, has mounted up to one hundred and three thousand dollars. Philadelphia has reason to feel gratified.

THE Nashville *Banner* proposes that the votes of the Southern States, carried by Mr. GREELEY be handed into Congress in favor of GRANT. The editor needs a straight jacket.

No wonder FRED DOUGLASS opposes civil service reform. There are but few negroes in office, and if the new rules are applied, people of his color will stand no chance of promoting, no how.

THE news of the death of HORACE GREELEY has caused universal sorrow. From all sections come accounts of deep grief and sympathy; in many instances from those who a few week's ago abused him the most and who are now loudest in their praises. Truly, few men have died in this or any other country whose demise has caused such sincere and heartfelt lamentation.

CONCERT HALL, Philadelphia, is regarded as too inconvenient and illy lighted for the meetings of the Constitutional Convention and it is probable that the City Armory at Broad and Race streets will be secured for that purpose.

SERGEANT BATES, who has essayed to carry the American flag from JOHN O'GROAT'S to Land's End, is receiving an ovation from obese JOHN BULL. We thought BATES about the biggest fool out of doors, but he finds others wherever he goes.

THE N. Y. *Times* has some kind words to say of Mr. GREELEY, but it neither displays dignity nor good sense when it reaches over his prostrate body to stab the *Tribune*. In its obituary notice of Mr. G. it alludes to that paper as "an empty shell" and intimates pretty strongly that the *Tribune* will soon follow its founder. No doubt the *Times* greatly wishes that this would be the case, but it ought to know that the death of no man ever interfered to any extent with the prospects of any well established newspaper, more particularly such an one as the *Tribune* has proved itself to be. The *Times* has demeaned itself and its rival will live as well with, as without its thrusts.

THE severity of the winter at this early day is almost unprecedented and will entail extra labor upon the different official charities existing for the relief of the destitute sick and poor. We are glad to know there is a prospect of the establishment of a fund, to be at the disposal of a Board of Trustees composed of leading citizens, with a view to aid in the most commendable work of relieving suffering, inseparable from large cities. We hope to be able to report progress at an early day of this benificent work, and have no doubt, if the parties selected enjoy public confidence, a sufficient fund can be raised, the interest of which will bring aid and comfort the sick and poor.

ON Tuesday President GRANT was waited upon by a delegation of the Pennsylvania Equal Rights League to request a recommendation of Civil Rights in his coming message. He assured them that they had his sympathies and that "I wish every voter of the United States should stand in all respects alike;" railroad tickets, etc., should entitle colored men to all that it does other men. Now this is more than the General ventured to do for the "Jews as a class" *vide* his "order No. 11." But what interests us the most is to know what the proprietor of the Monongahela House, who refused to board the colored veterans during the so-called Soldiers and Sailor's Convention, and what GRANVILLE WOODSON who refused to shave the same colored vets., or allow them to bathe in his tubs, are going to do about it. Our columns are open for any apology or explanation they may see fit to make.

As we predicted, already there is a movement on foot to pardon the murderer MORROW, or MARA as he is sometimes called. The Philadelphia *Bulletin* the leading organ of the ring in that city suggests it in a sly and cunning way, which is too thin to deceive any one who is read up on the case, and the Pittsburgh *Gazette* endorses and commends. Of course both organs attempt to defend SWOOPE'S action in the premises, but it will take more whitewash than they are capable of furnishing to make the people believe that he labored in the interests of morality and religion. We believe as we have said before, that this murderer who was pardoned for the attempted assassination of Detective BROOKS at the instance of leading Radical ring politicians, will again be pardoned by the same influence; but whether GEARY or HARTRANFT will do it remains to be seen. The proceedings before, during and since the trial of MARA indicate that in a great measure the Ring is bound to protect and defend the murderer.

(From Daily Post of Saturday.)

DEATH OF HORACE GREELEY.

With deep regret and unaffected sorrow we announce the death of the greatest journalist of the age, the founder of the New York *Tribune*, and the late Liberal-Democratic candidate for the Presidency—HORACE GREELEY. The sad event took place ten minutes before seven o'clock last evening, and though was not entirely unexpected, it will be heard with sorrow and regret throughout the nation. The immediate cause of his death, as announced by his physicians, was an organic affection of the brain the result of physical prostration consequent upon his unremitting attendance at the bedside of his dying wife.

The sad event was doubtless hastened by his extraordinary and unremitting labors during the campaign. He went weeks and weeks without sleeping more than an hour a night oftentimes and for long periods without food. His affection for Mrs. GREELEY was deep seated and sincere, and the probability of her approaching loss kept his mind in a continued state of exhaustive excitement. Since her death, the immense power of endurance which was so severely tested during her long sickness and suffering suddenly gave way, and a powerful reaction set in which left him completely enervated and prostrate. His nervous system was utterly gone. The nerves of his stomach were first affected to such a degree that he could not retain his food. Since then he has gradually failed. His overtasked nature could not rally and restore the vitality which he had exhausted.

On one day and night he delivered eighteen speeches, and in another twenty-two. Add to this the tremendous strain of nerve and brain, the three weeks of constant watching at his suffering wife's bedside, to which he hastened on his return from his trip to the West, and we have the problem solved.

When but a short month ago GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND, in anticipation of Mr. GREELEY'S election to the Presidency, wrote:

"Put by thy lamp, friend Horace,
Thy kindly, busy quill,"

little did he think that that "kindly busy quill" would be soon put by forever; and when we remember that hardly a month since Mr. GREELEY was in the glow of rosy health, and the nominee of the Liberal and Democratic parties for the highest office in the nation, we are reminded of the mutability and vanity of things earthly.

Mr. GREELEY was emphatically a great man, a gifted citizen, a born journalist, and such was his integrity that the name of "Honest Horace" is accepted as the typical honest man of this busy and intriguing generation. Eccentric they call him.

Alas!
The world has grown so feverishly hot,
With restless aims, and small ambitions, that
A life which has the cool and temperate flow
Of healthful purpose in its veins, will seem
Peculiar.

But now that the great founder of the *Tribune*, the sage of Chappaqua, the grand, gifted, political gladiator of a former generation is at rest, who will dare say that his "busy life" has not been fruitful of benificent results to mankind.

No idler he! whoever else might skunk,

For more than a quarter of a century he warred with pen and tongue against what CHARLES SUMNER called "the sum of all villiany"—human slavery, and during all that eventful period he was ever the friend of the poor, the weak, the down-trodden, the friend and champion of labor, and of every object for the amelioration of the race, the slashing and defiant enemy of rings and rogues, wherever found.

Thirty-one years ago Mr. GREELEY founded that journal which for three decades has been a controlling power in American politics, and concerning which the illustrious dead wished inscribed on his tomb, "Founder of the New York *Tribune*." For a quarter of a century this pupil and adviser of HENRY CLAY has stood in the front rank of social, industrial and political reformers. That he made mistakes is certain. That he made enemies by his enlarged and liberal views, and his frank, out spoken advocacy of temperance, free speech and free labor, cannot be denied; but taking the aggregate result of his life and works, both have been a grand success, and now that he is no more we shall probably realize what a great and good man has passed away.

Mr. GREELEY was born in Amherst, New Hampshire, February 3d, 1811, and was in the sixty-first year of his age. He was the son of a poor farmer, and when but ten years of age he, like LINCOLN, whom he resembled in many things, read all the books in the neighborhood by the light of a pine knot. He worked as a printer at Erie, and subsequently in New York, where he founded and edited at different times the *New Yorker*, the *Jeffersonian*, the *Log Cabin*, and in April, 1841, the *Tribune*, in all of which he won the esteem of his friends and the admiration of his enemies by his keen, vigorous, logical, pleading for the "greatest good of the greatest number."

THE resolution adjourning the Constitutional Convention, to meet in Philadelphia on the first Tuesday in January, was warmly contested by those both for and against and finally carried by 69 ayes to 42 nays.

WOODEN CYLINDER HEADS.

The San Francisco *Chronicle* tells the story of the steamer *Idaho* breaking her cylinder head on her recent trip home from Honolulu, thus leaving the vessel to depend entirely upon her sails to complete her voyage. As she was becalmed, the passengers became alarmed at the prospect of an unexpectedly long stay on the smooth bosom of the broad Pacific; and just about the time the captain had concluded to place the crew and passengers upon an "allowance" of provisions and water, an ingenious American ship-carpenter who was on board, suggested that a cylinder head of hard wood would help them through their trouble; he accordingly brought up his tool chest from the hold and from a teak board, which he found on the vessel, he fashioned a head for the cylinder; he made a "three-ply" of wood, and covering it with canvass and a heavy coating of paint, bolted it on, and braced it with a heavy timber in order to make it more secure. With this fixing up the gallant vessel reached her port "in good safety," as the marine policy hath it.

Now we don't mean to file a caveat on this ship-carpenter's claim, but we must say all this puts us in mind of a little story. One of our sharpest lawyers, once upon a time, attached a steamer lying at the wharf in this city. The Sheriff had taken possession, but our sharp friend was not satisfied until he had unscrewed the bolts from the cylinder head and lugged it up the wharf—(*qui facit per aliam facit per se*)—to a friendly warehouse, and retired to his bed, as he always does, with the sweet consciousness of having lived through a well spent day.

In the morning very early, after devoting himself to what he loved to call his matutinal meal, our enterprising young lawyer, naturally chuckling over his knowledge of steam engines, thought he would indulge himself in a walk along Water street on his way to his office. He did so, but the boat had left him. The wooden cylinder head idea originated in the mind of the captain of that steamer.

COLORED CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS.

At last we have one of the Ring organs, the *Commercial*, declaring boldly that on the subject of the right of colored children attending the Public Schools that "we have no call to express an opinion."

Why have you no call to express an opinion? It is a question that is now agitating this community. It is a question that is now before the courts. It is the law of the land, or at least we have been so informed for a couple of years past that colored people had all the rights enjoyed by other citizens, that they could not be deprived of them and yet the saintly *Commercial Printing Company* tells us it has no opinion on such an important question. What has come over it. Can it be that those who have recently purchased the concern are opposed to their children sitting beside the little pickanninnies in our schools?

It is just as we have said over and over again. The Radicals hate negroes, their love being confined exclusively to their votes and if the latter showed a disposition to go back on the party, the same spirit that now dictates "no opinion" would advocate the taking of the ballot away from them.

We never have advocated the mixture of white and black; we don't believe in it and what's more we believe that it was never intended to be so. Democrats can object to amalgamation and do it consistently too, but for the life of us we cannot see how any Radical sheet can go back and decline to express an opinion concerning rights which for the past two years they have contended were conferred upon the whole colored population. Ain't it almost time for the colored voters to inquire "Where are we now?"

THE *N. Y. Sun* is a member of the Associated Press. On Saturday it published a very full account of the last illness of HORACE GREELEY. This was sent to the Cincinnati *Commercial*, also a member of the Associated Press and paid for by it as a special telegram. The *Commercial* arrives in this city on the evening of its day of publication and consequently Saturday's issue, with the matter alluded to, came here on the same evening. This was copied bodily by a cotemporary and printed under the heading of an "American Press Dispatch."

Of course, most people do not care where the news comes from so as they get it, and we would not now call attention to this occurrence only to demonstrate the ingratitude of some journals which do not belong to the Associated Press and which continually abuse it; notwithstanding, it is the fount from which they take their main supply of news without pay, and credit the same to another and very inferior gatherer of telegraphic dispatches. This is what they term "enterprise." Do you see?

THE President has pardoned Paymaster HODGE, the poor fellow whose outside operations cost the government only $400,000 for which he was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary. Well so long as those who have stolen double and treble that amount are allowed to go free, it seems cruel to punish loyal men like HODGE.

THE MARA CASE.

The public has waited with patience to know how far the information said to be in possession of District Attorney SWOOPE, in relation to the murder element of Philadelphia would serve the ends of justice. The defender of MARA is as silent as the tomb since the election, but now that the notorious criminal through the persevering efforts of a *Press* reporter has made a partial confession, the immediate home organ of the District Attorney, the *Gazette*, is forced to an apology for Mr. SWOOPE, either written by or upon information furnished by him. It is therein stated that Detective BROOKS waited upon MARA after his arrest, and imagined he could get valuable information from him relative to his own case as well as to other crimes, and was anxious to procure counsel for him, for fear of his being "railroaded" into the Penitentiary; not one of the thousand lawyers of that city was invited to defend the case, but a government officer whose business is to prosecute criminals, was selected with the consent of his superior the Attorney General of the United States. The *Gazette* deprecates the idea that Mr. SWOOPE was moved by political motives but rose from a sick bed to vindicate the laws by punishing the guilty violators. It will be remembered, that all this occurred immediately prior to the October election, when mighty political stakes hung in the balance. We have no doubt through MARA and Detective BROOKS, but especially through District Attorney MANN, who upon a former trial defended MARA but who was now the prosecuter, Mr. SWOOPE obtained exact information not only as to the crimes, but what served his purposes much better, the names of the criminals. For the *Gazette* informs us:

He entered upon MARA'S defense, not with expectation of saving him from conviction, but for the purpose of unearthing a system of outrageous crime, including arson, terrorism, fraud and murder, and to obtain evidence as to who the guilty parties were. This was successfully accomplished.

Having succeeded in unearthing the system of outrageous crime, what use did he make of it? Perhaps the telegraphic dispatch said to have been received by him from Alderman MCMULLIN on the afternoon of the day of the election in which he said "I HAVE KEPT FAITH WITH YOU," will possibly cast some light upon it. By SWOOPE'S connection with the MARA case he obtained information which gave him power over MCMULLIN and other Democrats, who were obliged to purchase their freedom by treason to the party. The result in MCMULLIN'S district as well as his dispatch, prove this beyond any cavil. The apologist for Mr. SWOOPE, says he surrendered to Mr. MANN the prosecutor in the case, all his information to be employed as he saw proper, and so washed his hands clear; after he found he had accomplished his purposes politically, whatever MARA has uttered between his conviction and sentence, the public are under no obligations to Mr. SWOOPE. If MCMULLEN kept faith with him, why should he not keep faith with MCMULLEN?

Can Mr. MANN the leader of the Republican party in Philadelphia afford to punish the scoundrels whose political influence is necessary to his retention in office, necessary to elect twenty members of the Legislature, who are to reelect SIMON CAMERON Senator, and Mr. MACKEY Treasurer? Used to desperate adventures, how he can laugh over the following mild reproof of the *Gazette*.

Had MARA'S sentence been deferred, and the information given used, Philadelphia might have been speedily ridden of the worst element among her criminal class,—the men who have concocted crimes and employed others to give them effect. Never was there a fairer opportunity afforded the authorities of any city to purify the community by making a wholesale example of a class of desperadoes that live only to prey on the public; and never was such an opportunity so culpably thrown away. It is not difficult to locate the responsibility for this.

NAST'S last cartoon in *Harper's*, which represents that old sinner, SIMON CAMERON and due bill HARTRANFT armed with revolvers and Bowie knives and backed by a crowd of Philadelphia cutthroats, rounders and repeaters, in the act of dictating the appointment of one of their friends as Postmaster of Philadelphia, is raising Hail Columbia among that happy family. It is rumored that an apology has been demanded from the HARPERS, or a suit for libel is threatened. Whether the HARPERS will get down on their knees to the Pennsylvania ring or stick up for civil service reform remains to be seen. In the eyes of some people it is loyal and right for that *Journal of Debauchery* to caricature patriots like HORACE GREELEY, but it must not attempt it on an old scoundrel like CAMERON, or a man like HARTRANFT, whose record has been thoroughly and candidly examined and pronounced O. K. It might hurt the party as well as GRANT'S chances for a third term.

THE leading lawyers of Philadelphia headed by the Hon. WM. M. MEREDITH, have tendered Chief Justice THOMPSON a complimentary dinner. The banquet will take place at the Continental, in that city on the 19th inst.

As the humbug BATES has been so successful in carrying the stars and stripes through England it is proposed for some JOHNNY BULL to carry the British flag through the United States. JOHNNY better bring the flag of Ould Ireland. He will fare better.

THE GAZETTE'S TELEGRAPHIC COLUMNS.

The oldest denies point blank that it permitted the use of its telegraphic columns to the Boston clothing store advertiser. We use its own words:—

Of course, as the advertisement alluded to was not in the telegraphic department of the paper at all, the brilliancy of this beautiful falsehood is apparent and admirable.

A reference to its files will explain. It will be found Nov. 6th, the morning after the Presidential election, First page 7th column, set in the same type as other telegraphic matter following dispatches from West Virginia, Maryland, and Florida, and beside those from Missouri, Maine, and Connecticut. The dispatch was headed in bold face type.

WASHINGTON.

"How the Election Returns form Allegheny County were Received—President GRANT'S Dispatch—SUMNER, SCHURZ, and TRUMBULL—The President's style of doing business."

Signed by HORACE, PORTER secretary.

That the advertisement was paid for we know from the advertiser himself. That it appeared and was intended to be read as telegraphic news the public can judge. All this is a very trifling matter, and we only refer to it to sustain our original assertion, that the *Gazette* is the only paper within our knowledge, which has ever sold its telegraphic columns to advertisers, whether for ten cents or ten dollars per line.

MEMORANDA.

Under the constitutional right to prescribe rules in respect to the time, place and manner of choosing members of Congress, the Administration, under an act of Congress, approved on the 28th of February, 1871, authorizes its own officals to "personally scrutinize, count and canvass *each and every ballot*," for all offices, State and county, as well as for Congress; authorizes deputy marshals to arrest without legal process, and denounces a fine of three thousand dollars and imprisonment for two years on every Democrat who refuses to help to arrest another Democrat for daring to vote a Democratic ticket. This is the plain intent of the law, for no Republican will be arrested for voting the Republican ticket. This law only applies *now* to cities having over 20,000 inhabitants, but an effort was made last winter to make it universal, but failed. It will not fail when the new Congress assembles.

By means of a gross and utterly indefensible misconstruction of one of their own panaceas, the XIVth Amendment Congress has assumed to interfere by its military arm in the domestic affairs of the States, and to set at naught the very State Governments it is bound to protect and preserve.

It has, in the very teeth of the Constitution, suspended the writ of *habeas corpus*, when there existed neither invasion or rebellion.

The President has exercised the war power.

The war department has been sustained by him in the violation of the laws of nations and the acts of Congress.

The navy department has paid out $100,000 on a claim already paid in full.

The Treasury department acted in defiance of law in the Syndicate affair, and was sustained.

The Post Office Department has allowed a stale claim of nearly half a million, which had been repeatedly rejected.

It is claimed that all these outlays have been condoned by the recent election. We don't so understand it. But if so, it betokens deeper depths of degradation in the people than their worst enemies have ever assumed. We place them on record as questions not settled in GRANT'S favor, but as still open for discusion as points in evidence against him and his followers.

THE N. Y. *Evening Post* takes up a question which is likely soon to arise in Washington in regard to the Government taking control of the telegraphic business of the country. It argues against the scheme as it should do, and gives many excellent reasons why such a proposition should not be entertained. Among other things it says:

But a more potent argument than all others against the proposed scheme of incorporating the telegraph with the post-office is, that the act contemplated involves a radical departure from the most fundamental and essential of all Republican principles, which is that the government should do nothing for the people which the people are willing and capable of doing for themselves. The greatest problem in political science is to determine what ought, and what ought not, to be undertaken by the state. The old and trite saying, that the world has been governed too much, is strictly true; and as a truth, is very generally, but perhaps indefinitely, recognized in this country. We need, at this time, and especially in view of the course of events since the war, to take our stand definitely, and say to the government that if it cannot at once retrace it steps, it shall at least go not one step further in respect to any interference with the trade, commerce, finances or other pursuits of the people.

What shall be said further of the necessity involved in this telegraphic scheme of adding from twenty to thirty, or possibly fifty thousand additional offices to the patronage already enjoyed by the federal administration? The use and influence of what the Government now has is the most imminent danger that to-day threatens our existence as a nation; and yet it is deliberately proposed to increase this patronage to an extent that cannot fail to corrupt any one man or set of men that are to have the handling of it. What reform of the civil service, or any other beneficial reform can be reasonably expected if we are to clothe the government with such a reach of power as this telegraph bill proposes, over the business, the wealth and the press of the country? Thoughtful men every where are beginning to see that our most effective, perhaps we should ever say our only method of civil service reform, is to be found in the restraining of the government to its most limited sphere of action; and that in this way only can we legitimately hope to keep the government free from corruption.

THE Philadelphia *Ledger* thinks that female stockholders are no better than the common run—that they should await their turn; in fact, should stand back for business men. Referring to the payment of dividends by the Pennsylvania Railroad it says.

The female shareholders only of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, it is publicly announced, will be paid their dividends on the 30 inst. After that date when applying for their dividends, the will have to take their place in the line of applicants and be paid in order. With a proper respect for and deference to the sex in matters personal we yield to no one; but in matters of business, involving dollars and cents, we much question the policy or justice of any discrimination between classes of creditors. The rule for the payment of debts, as dividends and debts, should be universal in application. It is proper in the payment of dividend or interest that there should be such a division of the list of shareholders as will afford expedition in payment and the least delay to creditors, but no preference any one class over another should be given. If a company prefers to accommodate women, large holders, or holders residing distance from the city, in advance of the regular dividend day, to avoid a crowd or confusion, or for any cause there can be no objection to issuing checks for the respective amounts due in advance, made payable on the dividend day. This is proper enough, expedites business and inconveniences no creditor. But when the dividend or interest is due, it is arbitrary and unjust for any officer to deny one credit where all are equal, to the favor of another. Much inconvenience and damage might in some cases result to business men relying on such incomes to meet pressing liabilities. The straight-forward way is the true and the best way. There is no disrespect offered to a woman in requiring her to wait her turn; indeed, at the rate she can much better afford to wait a few minutes than can business men, whose time, especicially in the busines hours between ten and three, are necessarily of much importance. But there should be no discrimination except such as each creditor may choose to make. The postponement of payment for a day of a large sum of money, like that of a dividend due on a large capital, or of two days, as happens to be the case of the Pennsylvania Railroad at its next payment (the 30th being succeeded by a Sunday), gives rise to no suspicion that somebody may wish to make interest on the amount withheld.

DANIEL WEBSTER'S notions in regard to office-holders taking active part in political struggles were somewhat different from those now in vogue. In 184[illegible] he wrote as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
March, 20, 18[illegible]

To the Hon. Thos. Ewing, Secretary of the Treasury:

SIR: The President is of opinion that it is a great abuse to bring the patronage of the General Government into contact with the freedom of elections; and that this abuse ought to be corrected wherever it may have been permitted to exist, and to be prevented for the future.

He therefore directs that information be given to all officers and agents in the department of the public service, *that partizan interference in popular elections, whether of State officers or officers of this government*, and for whomsoever, or against whomsoever it may be exercised, or the payment of any contribution or assessment on salaries, or official compensation for party or election purposes, will be regarded by him as a cause of *removal*.

It is not intended that any officer shall be restrained in the free and proper expression and maintenance of his opinions respecting public men or public measures or in the exercise, to the fullest degree, of the constitutional right of suffrage. But persons employed under the Government and paid for their services, out of the public Treasury, *are not expected to take an active or officious part in attempts to influence the minds or votes of others*; such conduct being deemed inconsistent with the duties of the Constitution, and the duties of public agents acting under it; and the President is resolved, so far as depends on him, that while the exercise of the elective franchise by the people shall be free from undue influences of official station and authority, opinions shall also be free among the officers and agents of the Government.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant, DANIEL WEBSTER

DURING the last session of the Medical Society of Virginia, at Staunton, Dr. PARKER read a very interesting paper on the subject of sewing machines, their effect on the health of females, which the conclusions were announced as follows:

First. That fatigue is not disease, that there is no reason to conclude that the use of the muscles employed in machine work for a reasonable time is injurious. Second. That the machine may be used four or five hours daily in a family by a lady in ordinary health without injury. Third. That the damage to health in the factory is due to the bygienic conditions under which the work is done, and not to the natural delicacy of some of the operatives unfitting them for long-continued labor of any kind. Fourth. That the sewing machine is a great boon to woman-kind, increasing her compensation, protecting her sight, and in the family lessening her labors.

THE *World* calls attention to the Surgeon-General's report, which shows that while one white soldier in five of the country a doctor's bill, every single one in the service puts the Treasury to expense, and while one white man in sixty-five dies the mortality among the blacks is one in fifty-five. It adds: If it be intended to transport our thirty ritudinous regiments to Santo Domingo it would be economy to disband them at once.

CONSIDERABLE curiosity exists in New York as to the authorship of the BEECHER-TILTON libel. Mrs. TILTON, her sister and "Colonel" TILTON each swore before the Court that none of them wrote the article. It is now said that the authorship has been traced to a most unexpected source, and that positive proof will be brought out as to the author of the libel in a few days.

DIVORCED.

BY ROSE TERRY.

"*Custody of the children given to the father.*"

My darling! my darling! the midnight is here
To stifle and tempt me with longing and fear;
I hear through the darkness thy sweet little voice,
Like birds in their nests that in slumber rejoice.

My darling! my darling! a long night has come;
I am straying alone to the ashes of home;
Its echoes of love and their answers of peace—
All voices that blessed me in solitude cease.

I gave them my love as our Father gives air;
I gave them my life without stint or compare,
They used me and left me to die by the way;
My darling! my love, thou wert kinder than they.

From thee in thy blossom, the sweetness of dawn,
The perfume and faith of thy life are not gone;
Thou lovest for love's sake, not duty, nor gain;
Life hath not defiled thee, nor sorrow, nor pain.

Ah! would that together in some quiet grave,
Or deep in the ocean's long sorrowing wave,
Thy tiny arms round me, thy head on my breast,
We two lay forever in passionless rest.

In the night and the daytime I long for thy face;
I dream that thou liest at rest in thy place;
I waken and call thee with pitiful prayer—
My darling! my darling! why art thou not there?

O God! when Thou judgest the false and the true—
When the madness and passion of living are through—
I ask of Thee only to give me above
This baby, who only hath answered my love!"

—Scribner's for December.

Wedding Dresses.

A superb wedding-dress just completed as described by a fashion magazine, is of white faille. The train has several skirts of silk and tulle draped effectively on the back to display wide flounces of point lace, with which it is almost covered. Around the bottom of the skirt where it comes in contact with the floor; are some gathered silk flounces; about these the lace is placed, not straight around the skirt, but after a most fanciful arrangement. It forms a double apron in front, while in the back it forms a cascade from the belt. For heading to the lace flounces are upright plaitings of silk gauze and tulle, on which are thick vines of orange flowers, long garlands of buds and blossoms, with occasionally a tiny green orange, and many drooping sprays. The corsage is low and pointed with a bertha of lace and clusters of blossoms.

The dress to be worn at the wedding by the bride's mother is a soft cameo tint, trimmed with golden-brown velvet, wide Valenciennes lace, and clusters of crimson roses with brown foliage. This is far more distinguished looking than the pearl gray or lavender silk usually worn by the mother when accompanying the bride to church. The skirt has alternate kilt plaitings of velvet and silk, three inches wide, extending above the knee; these trim the front breadths, while the back has a wide flounce, cut in deep points on the edge to show a velvet frill set underneath the points. The over-skirt and basque are in the Louis Quinze style, with broad velvet revers and a Valenciennes flounce, looped by roses. The basque has a velvet vest draped with lace, antique sleeves with an inner ruffle of Malines and Valenciennes; the same trimming is in the pointed neck. A silk bow, with the pointed ends turned up and a velvet loop, is on the bosom and back of the basque.

A notable dress in this trousseau is a reception dress for the bride. This is of the new shade called Ophelia—a pale creamy tint, very lovely by gaslight. It is trimmed with facings of pansy-colored silk, and is richly embroidered with purple pansies. Another beautiful evening dress is of pale Azof green. The low pointed bertha of white lisse puffs is finished by a fall of point duchesse lace; amidst the puffs is a band of embroidered rosebuds, and coquettish little bows of watered ribbon. The train has two narrow bias ruffles and a deep flounce festooned at intervals to form Wattean or funnel-shaped folds; on the upper part of the front width is a tablier of two half circular rows of lace, headed by tulle embroidered with roses. The overskirt has an apron front cut open to the belt to display the tablier beneath. It is edged with lace and embroidery, hangs long and plain behind and has a Watteau drappery on each side.

Among the costumes is one of very dark garnet silk, with a sleeveless basque (or waistcoat) of velvet of the same color. A second suit is of myrtle green, with the front of the lower skirt and the back of the upper skirt formed entirely of alternate strips of velvet and silk. Ruffles, velvet facings, piping and fringe knotted on the velvet are the trimmings.

A Living Microscope—A Lad With Strange Eyes.

In a recent copy of the Birmingham (England) Register there is an interesting account of a lad whose powers of vision entirely eclipse anything of the kind ever heard of before. He is no less than a living microscope, and possesses the faculty of seeing minute objects magnified to a marvellous degree.—When quite young he was afflicted with a disease peculiar to the eyes, and fears were entertained that he would lose his sight. He recovered gradually, but it was noticed that the disease had materially affected the organization of the eye—in fact changed its internal structure, the corner being greatly enlarged, the crystalline lens being divided into three different parts, each part surrounded with a light blue circle, and in the centre of each appears the iris, but greatly diminished in size, being about the circumference of a small pin-head. He can not distinguish objects at a distance, they appearing to him as distinct objects do to ordinary eyes when viewed through a telescope drawn out of focus, blurred and mis-shapen. His case is exciting great interest among scientific men, who have formed various opinions as to the causes that have wrought such a change.

Added to this wonderful talent of microscopic view, the lad exhibits that of being able to sketch the objects he examines, and by an admirable finish of water colors can give to the world the result of his studies. He has within the last year examined and sketched quite a number of beautiful specimens of Diatomacea Polycystina and sponge spinules, that were kindly loaned him by several gentlemen of learning, their object being to compare them with other published views of the same objects, in order to test their truthfulness, and the result has been altogether satisfactory. A copy of one of the papers, photographed in Paris during the last siege was shown him, and he immediately read the lines and pronounced the words, which, however, he did not understand, not being versed in French.

Scientists who have paid attention to this case state as the result of their experiments, that the magnifying power of his vision is about five hundred diametres. One curious fact connected with his vision is, that he will never examine water having once, soon after his recovery, discovered the vast number of infusoria contained in some he was in the act of drinking, which had the effect to thoroughly frighten him, since which event no inducement can make him repeat the experiment.

Sir Charles Madden, F. R. S., has paid much attention to the singular case, and has brought it prominently before that body, by a series of interesting powers. It is said that Dr. Crowder, an eminent oculist, is preparing an elaborate article on the subject for the London Lancet.

The Marine Monster "Peter the Great"—Is She a Humbug?

(St. Petersburg Correspondence Morning Post.)

I gather from the letters recently published in the Times that the iron-clad Peter the Great, launched here last August, has been magnified into a sort of Mumbo Jumbo, which is to sweep the seas hereafter like the symbolical broom of Admiral Von Tromp. Now, it is true that the design of the Peter the Great was admirable; and it is also true that the vessel bearing the name of that design has been launched. But a launch in Russia is a very different thing from one in England. With us the launch is the celebration of a vessel's coming of age; with the Russians it is her baptism. What was launched last August as the Peter the Great was a mere shell, without machinery, without armor, without guns, without everything—a shell moreover, which even the arithmetic of Russian officialism cannot undertake to complete in less than three years, and this term is more justly extended into five or six by the public opinion of St. Petersburg, for the slowness and mal-administration characteristic of Russia are nowhere more conspicuous than in the naval department. This would matter less if the famous mythical iron-clad were likely to be of any use when she is completed; but when completely armed and equipped she will draw at least twenty-eight feet of water (she already draws fully twenty, which is more, not less, than the calculation of her designers), which renders her practically useless for the duty originally assigned to her—that of protecting the Gulf of Finland and the adjacent coasts—while in rough weather upon the open sea the uselessness, or rather the absolute helplessness, of such a vessel requires no demonstration.

Sans Souci, Prussia.

(Berlin Cor. N. Y. Post.)

But the stronger spell still drew us on and after a drive of two miles we were at last in the great park of Sans Souci with its two palaces and its eight hundred acres of wood and lawn, of fountains and flowers, of statues and shrubbery. As we drew near to the long facades of the New Palace, Prussian militarism still confronted us in the great barracks that stand opposite, and the waste of eye-blighting sand seemed to have flowed out after us from Berlin. But we had come at last to a great structure of the great king himself, which the close of the Seven Years' War left him with time and money to build. The entrance hall, splendid throughout with marble, contains a porcelain vase of Russian manufacture, thirteen feet high, and a gift from the Czar Nicholas, here, too, is a portrait of Peter the Great, in a boat in a storm. The great Grotto Hall seems to have floated up from the deepest caves of ocean and brought to us weird riches from the watery world, so does it glisten in all the length and breadth of its walls and ceiling with shining wealth from sea and mine. It may be said to be a museum of mineralogy artistically combined for the decoration of a palatial apartment. It is one glow of shells, minerals and precious stones. Pearls hang there in their native enclosures. Agate is blended with amethyst, quartz with amber, crystal with jasper, blood-stone with onyx. Sea monsters and all kinds of figures made of these and like materials fill the scene. It was wonderful even by daylight. We dare not say what it would be with floods of water breaking from all its fountains and the full moonbeams dispersed over all. Passing by some rooms of state, we linger again in the great king's music room, with its plain old piano, which his hands had touched. His writing-room, his sleeping-room, his dressing-room, where ministers came in the morning, his private dining-room, with its chair-coverings torn by his pet dogs, his card-room, with tapestry on its walls, which the sultan had presented, his library-room, with a pencil portrait of Voltaire by Frederick himself—all were filled by one brooding presence.

The walk from the New Palace to the Palace of Sans Souci, though lacking the succulent greenness of an English park, is full of beauty. The only ungainly object in the rustic flowery forest scene that stretches for a mile up to Sans Souci is the black, raw-boned windmill which rises not a stone's throw from the palace windows, and which the sturdy miller defended his right to keep and not to sell against the arbitrary will of Frederick in the courts of Berlin. If a man may be known by the company he keeps, it may be equally said he is known by the pictures he surrounds himself with. Certainly it is interesting to observe what have been the chosen studies in painting of a remarkable man. In the dining-room of Sans Souci was very properly the portrait of a pretty cook—it was the cook of Voltaire. The niece also of Voltaire hung on the wall. The Pompadour was there too, and, as the types doubtless of another character, was a painting of two Vestals, in the likeness of the Elector of Saxony's daughter, keeping up the sacred fire. This splendid hall of one hundred and fifty feet is full of striking and beautiful works of the king's selection. Several are by Rubens—"Susanna in the Bath," "The Resurrection," "The Brazen Serpent." There is "Seneca teaching Nero," "Coriolanus before the Gates of Rome," "Magdalen washing the feet of Jesus."

Our survey had already included the concert-room, on a mosaic table in which the clock stood, and yet stands, which stopped at twenty minutes after 2—the moment Frederick died. At the clock's side is a bronze statuette of Titus. Was it placed there out of regard to that saying which is ascribed to him: *Diem perdidi*? The sitting-room still has the wide chair the king died in, and the only portrait he ever sat for is on its walls. Very near the palace, and looking from a gentle elevation down on the shady walk in which Frederick and Voltaire often strolled, the brute favorites of Frederick are buried. Eleven dogs and his favorite horse lie there, a stone with its name over each. The only vacant grave in this cluster of the dead is under the pedestal on which Flora and Cupid are pictured in stone. It is the place where Frederick himself asked to be laid, a small thing to ask, yet it was not granted. In relinquishing his sceptre he gave up the ownership of his own dust.

Of all of Cobbett's hints to young men in the choosing of a wife, there is none of so much service in modern times as that which recommends to satisfy themselves that the young ladies of their choice know something of the kitchen. It is possible that young men who do not want to degenerate into the solitary dinners and nice suppers of their bachelor days, and so make their own lives, as well as their wives, inexpressibly wretched, might institute a new rule for courtship. Instead of asking a young lady to play and sing for them, they might invite themselves to a dinner of her cooking. This is not more impudent than the other. Both are means of enjoyment exacted from the young woman, and a good dinner is infinitely preferable to a poor song.—[Chicago Tribune.

[From Judy.]

CLERKS' MEMORIAL.

Praying to John Bull for an Increase of Salary.

We, your Junior Clerks, beg to call your attention
To the following facts, which we thinks right to mention:—
You will doubtless remember that, some years ago,
When the prices of clothes and provisions were low,
Our salary scale was drawn up with great care,
And in those happy times no doubt it was fair.
Autres temps, autres prix—we need scarcely say
That prices are very much higher to-pay,
With clothing, provisions, and the house-rent so dear,
Your poor Junior Clerks almost "*robbed of his beer*,"
Not to mention his wine;
True, if e'er he should dine,
To keep up an appearance as long as he's able,
He has it—*but only to stand on the table*.
Next, many a promising fellow would marry,
Were poverty forces him single to tarry.
Now this to his spirit must cause great vexation.
And think how 'twill lessen your land's population?
Our tastes, sir, are simple, our wants therefore few—
On entering your service our trust was in you;
But 'tis true that we fondly believed that that trust
Would procure us in time something more than a crust.
We hope, then, you'll grant these our wishes most fervent,
And each will remain
Your obedient Servant.

Mark Twain's Story of the Poor Little Stephen Girard.

The man lives in Philadelphia who when young and poor entered a bank, and says he, "Please, sir, don't you want a boy?" And the stately personage said, 'No, little boy, I don't want a little boy." The little boy, whose heart was too full for utterance, chewing a piece of licorice stick he had bought with a cent stolen from his good and pious aunt, with sobs plainly audible, and with great globules of water rolling down his cheeks, glided silently down the marble steps of the bank. Bending his noble form the bank man dodged behind a door, for he thought the little boy was going to shy a stone at him. But the boy picked up something and stuck it in his poor but ragged jacket. "Come here, little boy," and the little boy did come here; and the bank man said, "Lo, what pickest thou up?" And he answered and said, "A pin." And the bank man said, "Little boy, are you good?" and he said he was. And the bank man said, "How do you vote?—excuse me, do you go to Sunday-school?" and he said he did. Then the bank man took down a pen made of pure gold and flowing with pure ink, and wrote on a piece of paper, "St. Peter," and asked the little boy what it stood for, and he said, "Salt Peter." Then the bank man said it meant "Saint Peter." The little boy said "Oh."

Then the bank man took the little boy to his bosom, and the little boy said "Oh!" again, for he squeezed him. Then the bank man took the little boy into a partnership, and gave him half the profits and all the capital, and he married the bank man's daughter, and now all he has is all his, and all his own, too.

STORY OF ANOTHER LITTLE BOY.

My uncle told me this story, and I spent six weeks picking up pins in front of a bank. I expected the bank man would call me in and say, "Little boy, are you good?" and I was going to say "Yes;" and when he asked me what "St. John" stood for, I was going to say "Salt John." But I guess the bank man wasn't anxious to have a partner, and I guess the daughter was a son, for one day says he to me, "Little boy, what's that you're picking up?" Says I, awful meekly, "Pins." Says he, "Let's see 'em." And he took 'em, and I took off my cap, all ready to go in the bank and become a partner and marry his daughter. But I didn't get an invitation. He said, "Those pins belong to the bank, and if I catch you hanging around here any more I'll set the dogs on you!" Then I left, and the mean old cuss kept the pins. Such is life as I find it.

A Romance in Real Life.

During the past week, a bit of romance has occurred in the Children's Aid Society, of New York, which hardly seems to belong to this matter-of-fact age. The New York Tribune tell the touching story as follows:

A number of years since, the report of the society gave an account of a sad event in Brooklyn. A women had been murdered by her drunken husband, and a kind lady of that city discovered three wretched little children weeping over the corpse, two boys and a girl. They were utterly friendless after the arrest and imprisonment of the father. The two boys were brought to the newsboys' lodging house, in New York, and the girl temporarily sheltered. At length the society sent the two lads to homes in the West, and the girl was adopted by a gentleman of property, near the city. The latter never knew that her adopted father was not her own. The boys have now grown up and acquired property—one being a druggist and the other a farmer. They have been extremely anxious to communicate with their sister, and have been in correspondence with her guardian for some time. During past week they revisited the city for the first time well-educated young men, in good circumstances. They visited the Girls' Lodging-house, the newsboys,' and other institutions of the society. The adopted father of their sister consented that they should see her in his office, provided they did not disclose their relationship, as she was only fifteen, and he wished her to suppose herself his daughter so that her affection might not be weakened for a few years longer. She is to inherit his property. They felt the propriety of this, and had their interview with her last week, without discovering their relationship, and then returned, well satisfied, to the West."

A Russian Marriage Ceremony.

The bride and bridegroom held a lighted taper in their hands in front of a small altar placed in the centre of the church. Rings were placed on their fingers, and their hands being joined, they were led by the Pope three times around the altar. Two highly ornamented gilt crowns were placed on their heads and held over them by the groomsmen during part of the services. They drank wine out of a cup three times, and kissing one another, the ceremony was finished. The married couple then made a tour of the church, crossing themselves at and saluting each saintly Icon on their way. Weddings generally take place toward the evening, so that immediately after the ceremony dinner commences at the house of the bride's father. At a marriage feast lighted candles are placed in every position and corner possible. No other wine but champagne should be drunk, and the quantity consumed of this beverage is remarkable. The dinner is followed by a ball, and the feasting is usually kept up for twenty-four hours. The custom of honeymooning does not exist in Russia. The married couple spend the first few days of their wedded life with the bride's father. Shortly after the marriage the bride and bridegroom must call upon every one of their relations, friends and acquaintances, and after this ceremony is finished they sink back to their ordinary life.—[Ivan at Home.

FUN FOR THE WORLD.

Telling the Jokes of All Nations by Their Ear-Marks.

(From Hearth and Home.)

There is nothing else in the world which bears the marks of its nativity so unmistakably as wit and humor do. The speeches of Burke might have been delivered by Webster, the poetry of Wordsworth and Southey might have been written by Americans; there is nothing about the German philosophy which is so essentially German that it might not have been English; and there are some of the French dramatists who could almost have imitated even Shakspeare himself. it is not so with wit and humor. Give a jest, and it needs but little discernment to tell whence it came. Sheridan's much quoted remark concerning Dundas, that he "resorts to his memory for his wit, and to his imagination for his facts," could not possibly have been made by any but an Englishman, or even by an Englishman of any other than Sheridan's time.

Douglas Jerrold's witticism, "It is better to be witty and wise than witty and otherwise," was not only very English, but very Jerroldy, and few people would need to be told who said it.

And so it is with the humor of other people. Who would hesitate for a moment to credit Ireland with the man who, vaunting the glories of the past, wanted to know "where you will find a modern building which has lasted so long as the ancient ones?" Equally evident is Sir Richard Steele's nativity from his celebrated effort to extend hospitality to a friend, to whom he said, "If you should ever come within a mile of my house I hope you will stop there."

Perhaps the most strongly marked humor, however, is that of our own country. It is of a broad-gauge sort,—a kind of high-pressure affair,—too much like us to belong to anybody else. Thackeray's joke about the size of our oysters was purely English, of course, and differed in every way from that of his American companion, who remarked that he had seen an oyster so large that it "took three men to swallow it whole." Equally American was the remark of the North Carolinian, who in speaking of the extreme leanness of his neighbor's hogs, said "he had to put overcoats on them to make a shadow in the sun." It must have been this North Carolinian's brother who said an acquaintance was "so tall that he never found out when his feet got cold till they got warm again."

Nobody but an American could have called Shakspeare a "boss poet," as Artemus Ward did.

But the most peculiarly American form of humor yet developed is that which has lately become so popular among editorial paragraph-writers in our Western States. It is indescribable, and we can indicate what it is only by giving one or two examples.

"Mrs. Gwin, of Davenport, assisted the kitchen fire, one day last week, with the kerosene can. The heavy rain kept a good many people from attending the funeral."

"A Chicago man ate ten dozen of eggs on a wager last week. The money he won has been paid to his widow."

"A man out in Kansas said he could drink a quart of Cincinnati whisky, and he did it. The silver-mounting on his coffin cost $13.75."

We cannot fail to discover at once the parentage of anything of this sort. It is too evidently indigenous to be mistaken for an exotic.

The jests of other nations are equally well marked. Your French *bon mot* has an unmistakeable shrug of the shoulders about it. German wit is elaborate and minutely accurate in all its details. A Scotch joke must of necessity be gimlet-pointed, else it could never be driven home in the head of a Scotchman.

We can not only discover the nationality of a jest from internal evidences, but we can often tell the exact region whence it came, and sometimes even its very authorship is apparent. When we hear a man say that he "wrestles his hash" at such a place, we know very well that that man was "raised" west of the Alleghanies. The man who asks you "what you've got on your wheel-house" when he wants to know what you propose to do, has no need to tell anybody that he has lived on the banks of the Mississippi River. And it could only have been a college student, and a sophomore at that, who, when asked what stars never set, replied. "*roostars.*"

There are some jests, as we have already remarked, whose very authorship is apparent; notably some of Hood's and nearly all of Charles Lamb's. Saxe has closely imitated his master in the matter of puns, but he has never shown himself equal to such a play on words as that which Hood puts into the mouth of the vender of ear-trumpets, who, in vaunting his wares says:

"There was Mrs. F.,
So very deaf
That she might have worn a percussion-cap,
And been knocked on the head without hearing it snap,
Well, I sold her a horn, and the very next day
She heard from her husband at Botany Bay."

Charles Lamb was never like anybody else, and certainly nobody else was ever like Charles Lamb. It was he, of course, (who else could it have been?), who replied to the complaint of his superior in the India House, that he came to his desk later in the morning, than any other of the writers, by saying, "Yes; but you see I make it up by going away earlier in the evening." His good things were always so essentially and wholly his own, that there is no possibility of mistaking their origin. No other man could have thought his thoughts or anything like them. Nobody else would ever have thought of pitying our forefathers who lived before the times of candlelight, because when they cracked a joke after dark they had to feel about for a smile, and handle their neighbor's cheeks to be sure they understood it.

A Curious Story About a Wash-Bowl.

There is a little indefiniteness in the following story, but if the Columbus (Ga.) Sun, which tells it, means to imply that the picture described was not in the bottom of the bowl before Mr. Ball, of "unquestionable veracity," washed his hands in it preparatory to going to breakfast, then those "spectre faces on the window-panes" of numerous houses in Ohio and elsewhere may as well fade away immediately, as no longer unsurpassed phenomena. The story, as the Sun tells it, runs thus: Among the articles shown at the Opelika Fair is a common wash-bowl that has been in use for ten years. On the bottom is engraved the likeness of a woman sitting in a chair her face turned towards a dog, who is wistfully gazing at her. Around are trees, bushes, &c., and in the background are angels hovering—all distinct. The story is this: Mr. Ball, of Coosa county, Alabama, on the morning of February 28, 1868, came from his blacksmithshop and washed his hands in the bowl and went to breakfast. His daughter went to the bowl, saw the scenery, threw the water out, but the picture and scenery remained, and does now, as bright, as when first seen in 1868. Mr. Ball is said to be of unquestionable veracity.

A Plucky Woman.

The St. Louis Republican reports a curious case which came up in the Circuit Court of that city a few days since. It was to obtain a decree of divorce from the holy bonds of matrimony, entered into on the 20th of June, 1871, in the city of St. Louis. The marriage, it is alleged, was never consummated. And thereby hangs a tale. The parties are both young, high spirited, of Southern blood and birth, and one is beautiful. They were residents of the city of Mobile, and moved in circles of the highest respectability. An intimacy sprang up between them, which continued for a year and a half, when the young lady discovered that matters had proceeded too far. The lover, apprehending violence at the hands of her relatives, sold out his business and came to St. Louis. Here he opened a store, and is still thriving.

It appears, however, that a few months since the lover was walking through one of the streets of St. Louis when he was met by a lady who was deeply veiled. He did not recognize her until she raised her veil, and then he was startled to find his Julia standing before him. She demanded an interview, and they took a ride to Lafayette Park. There, seated under the statue of Benton, under the shadow of green boughs, they talked over the pleasant hours they passed together in their Southern home. The feelings of both had undergone a change, and but little of the old love was left. The object of her visit was to obtain reparation for the wrong she had suffered. She gave him to understand, in unmistakeable terms, that unless he made her his wife within twenty-four hours, he would be a dead man. She had come for this sole purpose, and was determined to accomplish her object. She did not care to live with him, and agreed to return to Mobile immediately after the performance of the ceremony. She had learned of the whereabouts of the whilom lover, and obtaining a letter of introduction from Father Ryan, had followed him to this city. There was resolution in her eye and in her voice as she spoke, and the young man knew the consequence of a refusal. He consented. The twain went to the residence of Bishop Byan, and the ceremony performed without delay. The bride then departed for Mobile, and has never since seen her husband. More than a year has elapsed, and now the husband comes into court and prays for a divorce on the ground stated.

Laughter Analysed.

Most of the philosophers who have set to work to define mental sensations insists that laughter supposes a feeling of superiority in the laughter over the laughed at; but they seem to overlook the great distinction between laughing at and laughing with any one. Doubtless a feeling of contempt often raises a laugh, and the absurdities of men and women are a constant food for laughter; but humorists often laugh at themselves. Nothing will illustrate better the absurdity of the wholesale statement that laughter implies contempt than Charles Lamb's relation to Coleridge. He constantly laughed and joked at the preaching of the philosopher, but he reverenced his friend of fifty years, and looked up to him with childish love. A "Westminster Reviewer" defines the cause of laughter as the representation of objects with qualities opposite of their own; but all incongruities do not cause laughter. Ludicrous incongruity is opposed to dignity, and this is why those who have little wisdom to fall back upon hate a laugh. Lord Bolingbroke said that gravity is the very essence of imposture; and Joe Miller is the authority for the assertion that as the gravest beast is an ass, the gravest bird is an owl, and the gravest fish is an oyster, so that the gravest man is a fool. If any one is inclined to doubt Joe Miller's dictum, we can corroborate it by the authority of Plato, who, when indulging in the gayety of his heart, used some times to say, "Silence, my friends! let us be wise now; here is a fool coming." Lord Chesterfield was no fool, and he disapproved of laughter, but he allowed his son to smile, for he did not advocate gravity. He considered laughter as ill-bred, not only on account of the disagreeable noise, but because of the "shocking distortion of the face that it occasions!" It is happy for the world that such false notions are not now received. Some suppose that laughter is caused by novelty and surprise, and a French philosopher, in accounting for the fact that, although we are told our Lord wept, we never hear that he laughed, suggests to us the reason that nothing was new to Him. Although this is good enough as a theory, it is grounded upon a mistaken idea of laughter, for we often laugh on the recollection of a witticism. Nevertheless, surprise is a material element of laughter, although it is not confined to that emotion. It has been well observed that "the only constant effect that follows an original striking comparison is a shock of agreeable surprise; it is as if a partition-wall in our intellect was suddenly blown out; two things formerly strange to one another have flushed together.—[British Quarterly Review.

The Masonic Temple.

It is now evident to those interested that the new Masonic Temple will be completed in time for the proposed grand dedication in June next. All the granite work is done, and the immense derricks and steam apparatus, required to place the blocks in position, have been removed. All the window frames are in place, except in the principal opening in front over the portico, and the glazier has inserted the plate glass, which is one of the incidents in this part of the structure. The result is, that the entire building is now under shelter, and the mechanics in the several departments can prosecute their labors during the winter without interference from outside storms. All the roofs within are plastered and finished ready for the frescoers, and some of the main parts will be decorated before the dedication in June. The carpenters are now at work, and the several departments in which they are engaged will be marvels of mechanism. Throughout the interior of the building, nothing but the best seasoned wood has been used, and everywhere the joints indicate more the character of the cabinet maker than the ordinary work assigned to carpenters. The window frames in the upper story are framed with the same care as those on a line with the vision, and in every department of joinery there has been great care shown. As before stated in the Ledger, the different Lodge rooms are arranged and decorated and adorned with reference to the symbals of the Order. One is Gothic, another Grecian Ionic, and in all there is a consistency that will delight not only those who understand the significance of the ornamention, but also those who appreciate a correct adherence to architectural forms.

Of the outside of the building there is little to be said. A new curb is being laid around the entire structure, and before the winter sets in it is expected that the sidewalks will be graded and paved. All of the exterior has been "pointed," and the joints in the masonry made clean and clear. The building, as it now stands, is the most imposing edifice in Philadelphia. —[Phila. Ledger.

BEAUTY.

Not on the earth
Hath beauty bloom, hath beauty flower:
This is alone its natal hour—
The chamber of its birth;
Here the germ dwells,
And, prone to silence, and to night,
It buries to love and life and night
As babies in our dells.

But not on earth
Hath beauty growth beyond the flower—
The life that in a day or hour,
Goes to another birth;
And all we see
Of beauty is a glimmer bright—
Is but the promise of a night—
The glory that's to be.

When, in the skies,
The spirit doth unfold and find
Life's hopes grown perfect to the mind,
For beauty then it sighs;
And beauty there
Compares with beauty here below,
As morning's golden skies aglow
With murkiest clouds compare.

The forms we love
And cherish for each faultless line,
But shadows are of those divine
That we shall know above;
So let us live
In love of Nature not of art,
That each may then, with reverent heart,
Fit homage have to give.

VARIETIES.

A cow in Williamantic, Mass., has killed herself by swallowing a hair pin.

The Khedive of Egypt is said to have an income of $50,000,000 per annum.

When is an army like a tuck in a lady's skirt? When it is hemmed in.

A Kansas judge was recently arrested on a charge of drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and carring concealed deadly weapons.

A foreign medical journal remarks that the most warlike nation in modern times is vaccination, because it is always in arms.

The statue of Chief Justice Taney was raised upon the pedestal at Annapolis, Md., on the 21st instant. It represents Mr. Taney in a sitting posture.

The iron and steel manufacturers of Sheffield, England, have associated for the purpose of reducing the high price of coal, and threaten to work short time rather than submit to the present rates.

The London police have recently discovered a firm of cripple manufacturers where children of tender years are taken in, and their limbs are distorted in various ways, the better to excite the pity of the charitable.

At a late wedding a calcium light was thrown on the bride as soon as she left the church, and was so managed as to flood the carriage with light, and thus exhibit the beauty and toilette of the blushing bride and groom to an admiring multitude.

Young ladies with tracts for distribution are no longer to have the entree to the St. Louis jail, as the Warden says they've abused the privilege by flirting with the prisoners.

T. H. Harris, of Canandaigua, and Dr. Howley, of N. Y., have been awarded, the former $10,500, and the latter $10,000, for damages sustained in a recent railroad collision on the New York Central road, at Pittsford.

The Church Journal complains that business men do not advertise in religious papers, whereby not only do the business men lose an opportunity, but the cause of the church suffers also. The responsibility of maintaining disreputable papers is put upon the advertisers.

Indianapolis boasts of a leading contractor who can neither read nor write, and who does not know one figure from another, yet can accurately estimate the number of brick for a wall, or shingles for a roof, of given dimensions, and the cost of construction.

About midway up Laura street, Jacksonville, Fla., may be seen a tree which exhibits full grown oranges and lemons growing side by side, and both apparently in a flourishing condition. The lemon has been grafted upon the orange tree with remarkable success and attracts general attention.

A radical politician at Whitewater, Wis., wrote two letters after election. One was to his son containing the single word "Hurrah," the other full of consolation to a weeping friend who had just lost his wife. In his excitement he got them mixed in directing and the result can be imagined.

Feather flowers are the latest. They are made in Florida, and the new branch of industry promises to become very remunerative. The flowers are made of the beautiful plumage of the white heron, while the leaves are taken from the paroquet. They are already very fashionable among Southern ladies.

The Indians are allowed free rides on all the freight trains near their homes on the Central Pacific road, the privilege being granted to secure their good-will. They consider themselves to be the only persons entitled to "dead head" rides, and keep a sharp watch for white men who may be trying to evade the payment of fare.

A preacher, one slippery, frosty morning, going home with one of his elderly members, the old gentleman slipped and fell. When the minister saw that he was not hurt, he said: "My friend, sinners stand on slippery places." "Yes," replied the old man looking at the preacher, "I see they do, but I can't."

There will be no foot lights in the new Lyceum Theatre in New York, and the space occupied by the scenery and actors is encircled by a huge dome of canvass covered iron work which acts as an immense sounding board and will project the faintest whisper throughout the entire extent of the house. Mr. Fechter expects to have the theatre ready for opening before Christmas.

Another "funny boy" has been found. His name is Massenheimer and he lives in Maryland. On Monday evening he and a friend and two ladies were walking homeward from a prayer meeting. Something was said about fire-arms, of which weapons the tender maidens expressed a horror. Massenheimer, by way of a lark, and to show the entire harmlessness of pistols, drew his own, flourished it in the air, and shot his friend dead. There is nothing half so amusing as playing with loaded fire-arms. They have such a delighful way of getting up a surprise by going off in the wrong place.

Here is the ground-work for a first-class novel. A blind man was crossing Broadway, when he was on the point of being run over by a reckless hansom cab driver, and at the risk of her own life a beautiful young lady ran to his rescue, and piloted the old man to the pavement in safety. A rich bachelor saw the transaction, and straightway sought her out, was introduced, courted, proposed, was accepted, and married the heroine without loss of time. The effect of this is wonderful. Hopeful young ladies can be seen standing in the vicinity of street crossings, with one eye searching for stray blind men, and the other on the look-out for a rich bachelor; for it would be an awful bore if they should tackle the old man and have the bachelor nowhere around.—[N. Y. Express.

Weekly Post.

JAS. P. BARR.....WM. SCHOYER.
JOS. S. LARE.....E. A. MYERS.

JAMES P. BARR & CO.,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS,
145 Wood Street, Corner Virgin Alley.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, Dec. 7, 1872

THE building lately occupied by the Sixth Presbyterian church on Spruce street, near Sixth, Philadelphia, has been recommended by the Committee as a suitable place for the sessions of the Constitutional Convention.

THE recommendations of the President regarding steamship subsidies and the postal telegraph scheme is meeting with considerable opposition. The Democratic members of Congress, ought and no doubt will, oppose these and all other jobs.

IT is stated that the inauguration ball at Washington next March, will have an entire new feature in the presence of the *elite* of colored society in Washington. Why shouldn't it have? Will the *Dispatch*, which is afraid to open its mouth on the question of colored children attending the Public schools, please inform us?

WE would advise such of our Federal office holders who depend upon CAMERON and his lieutenants to help them through not to place too much dependence in that direction. His personal relations with GRANT are in peril, being badly damaged recently and his future hold in the Senate very much mixed. Young America is after him with a sharp stick.

THE people generally will be gratified to see that Mr. BLAINE has faced the *Credit Mobilier* charge in a manly manner. Without waiting for another to move, he vacated the chair and calling Mr. COX to act as temporary Speaker, moved for a committee, with the request that Mr. COX would appoint a majority of Democrats thereon. Five excellent men were placed on the committee, and the country will look to them for a thorough investigation of the charge so boldly made by Mr. AMES.

WE hope the Constitutional Convention will provide for the removal of the Capital from Harrisburg to Philadelphia. It is only by this means a higher grade of men can be induced to serve as law makers. To ask the present legislature to change the seat of government for the reason given would be equivalent to a vote of censure, and would not, of course, be entertained. There are several cogent reasons for desiring this change, which we have discussed several times, and may allude to again, before the adjournment of the Convention.

AS LONG as any use can be made of Generals in the political line, and appeals to the loyalty of the masses are effective in securing votes, Senator SUMNER'S proposition to diminish the monuments of the late war between fellow-citizens at present united in fellowship, will not be treated with respect by the Republican party. Quarrels between relations are generally the most violent and bitter, and when reconciliation takes place, it can only be maintained by refraining from the discussion of the original point of difference. So with the country. Let us have peace.

MR. SUMNER'S resolution directing the omission from the Army Register and from regimental flags the names of all battles of the late civil war, is in good taste and sound statesmanship. If we are to be united together, why nourish and cherish memories calculated to keep alive hatred instead of brotherhood? The only influence of the course to which Mr. S. objects is the direct opposite of oblivion; the idea that any soldier who fought from purely patriotic motives would feel vexed by the adoption of Mr. SUMNER'S idea, is a poor compliment to the soldier. The South, it is true, has not asked this proof of good will, and would likely prefer a more substantial evidence of Northern kind feeling, but still it ought to be done.

DECLINE IN IRON.

At a meeting of the Western Iron Association held in this city on yesterday, it was resolved to reduce the card quotations of iron to four and six-tenth rates, being a decline of twelve dollars per ton. The manufacturers of nails also met and reduced the price fifty cents per keg. The above reduction in rates is owing to the decline in the price of pig metal and necessitates also a reduction of the wages of the workers in iron as per rates adopted by the manufacturers and employees.

SIMON OVERBOARD.

Everything is not exactly as lovely for SIMON CAMERON'S re-election to the Senate as would seem on the surface. A compact well organized opposition has been started in the East which looks very like sweeping CAMERON out of sight. The gentlemen who have it in charge don't mean to bolt the caucus, but to beat him inside. They have hitherto been considered the ringleaders of the Ring and the chief fuglemen of SIMON, and will not ground arms until the slate is smashed. We have no objections.

THE MESSAGE.

Elsewhere we print the fourth annual message of President GRANT delivered on yesterday to both Houses of Congress. Like others from the same pen that have preceded it, there is little contained therein that either instructs, if we except the extracts from reports; or suggests, if we omit the President's pet schemes, which will receive attention in their proper order.

The document starts out in the usual way of thankfulness to the Giver of all Good, refers to the Boston and Chicago fires, notes how the people are rallying under their misfortunes and how free we have been from war, pestilence and other calamities. The happy termination of our troubles with Great Britain is referred to in which a high compliment is paid to CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS. The question between this country and Great Britain in regard to the fisheries has been disposed of and legislation to carry out the provisions of the treaty are asked for. The boundary line with the British possessions receives a passing notice, and an invitation is asked for the International Congress to hold its next session in the United States. The Vienna exposition receives considerable attention, as it deserves, and money and two naval vessels to transport articles, so as the United States will be properly represented is desired. Our affairs with Mexico, Spain and other foreign powers are alluded to, with all of which we are upon the most friendly relations. Provision is urged for distressed seamen in foreign countries, and then come extracts from the reports of the secretaries of the various departments, one of them the most important, the Treasury, and in which Mr. GRANT now makes, or Mr. BOUTWELL has made, some very huge blunders in regard to the reduction of the debt. As there may be some mistake in transmitting the figures over the wires, we defer further comment for the present. The message then refers to river and harbor improvements, and favorable attention is requested to suggestions of the Secretary of War in regard to the appointment of cadets and other matters. Some other questions and suggestions; how they should be met are spoken of, and the abolition of the franking privilege is recommended. Then comes the question of the Government taking possession of the telegraph lines. GRANT is in favor of this—in fact it is one of his pet schemes. It gives him considerable more power and some thirty, perhaps fifty thousand additional officers to appoint, all calculated to assist in centralization. Whatever action is taken he says he wants to be fair to the Government and to private parties concerned. He says there is an alarming falling off in our carrying trade, and thinks that an expenditure of $5,000,000 per annum for the next five years would help our merchant marine. Should'nt wonder.

The President informs us that the disbursements through the Department of Justice have somewhat increased, and blames it on the reckless and lawless men of the South. He much regrets the necessity for the Enforcement Act, and hopes the cause for applying it may not be again demanded. Most likely it never will be, provided the people act and vote as GRANT tells them.

The Indians receive some attention. Patents and Pensions are mentioned, and Compulsory Education is commented upon and commended to the favorable attention of Congress, which is asked to pass the bill appropriating the net proceeds of lands for educational purposes in the various States. An appropriation to improve the public grounds and buildings in Washington is solicited, and the hundredth anniversary of American Independence favorably alluded to.

The message closes with reference to Civil Service Reform in which the President confesses that Federal offices have been regarded too much as the reward of political services, and promises to apply the rules as he understands them, but we hardly infer from this that he will appoint any Democrats.

It is needless to say that the document falls far behind what the country had a right to expect. It has no comfort for the South, neither for the colored population who so recently appealed to the President to say something in favor of civil rights. It may delight some but it will not the masses.

GOVERNMENT WANTS THE TELEGRAPH.

Put Government in control of the telegraph, and it will obtain the same power over the citizen, as if it enjoyed the privilege of opening every letter that comes through the mail. To accomplish this, is only a question of time and money, and that it will be accomplished unless public opinion sets strongly against it, we have no doubt, and in this awakening of public opinion we have but little confidence. The people are more disposed to recognize cheap rates than trouble themselves about the probable consequences of the surrender of this vast power to the government. There seems to be such a general acquiesence in all that proceeds from Washington, such ready obedience to all that assumes the forms of law, that we almost despair of arresting the tide which sets so strongly towards consolidation and despotic power.

THE Concord (N. H.) *Patriot* has the following:

In a letter to the Hon. Mason W. Tappan, dated November 8, one of the very last Mr Greeley wrote, he expresses great gratitude to Mr. Tappan for going into the recent contest in his behalf with such zeal; and says in his gravely jocular manner:

"I have been so bitterly assailed that I hardly know whether I was running for the Presidency or for the Penitentiary."

Mr. Greeley thus speaks of the death of his wife:

In the darkest hour my long suffering wife left: not too soon, as she had suffered too deeply and long. I laid her in the grave with hard, dry eyes. Well, I am used up. I have slept little for weeks, and my eyes are hard to close, while they soon open again."

Certain allusions made in the letter, as stated to us by Mr. Tappan, we are not at liberty at present to specify; but hope that he will find it consistent with propriety ultimately to publish the whole letter, the contents of which are specially interesting on account of their conveying the latest impressions of Mr. Greeley's mind on the situation of public affairs.

THE proposition of the *Tribune* that the GREELEY electors vote for GRANT has not received any endorsement from a single leading Democratic or Liberal journal. The N. Y. *Sun* says:

It is evident that the author of this silly counsel has never understood that any principles were at issue in the recent canvass, and has not believed the spasmodic denunciations of Republican corruption and misgovernment which have from time to time flowed from his pen.

This writer has the presumption to affirm that Mr. Greeley would have given the same advice. The enemies of that great man in his lifetime have never said anything more injurious to his good name or more outrageous to the respect cherished for him by his true friends.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* says:—Among the latest, if not the last letter written by Mr. GREELEY before his final prostration, was the following addressed to General CARY, in acknowledgment of his services during the recent canvass. The sprawling lines and blurred and blotted letters tell the sad story of the physical wreck of the man:

"NEW YORK, November 10, 1872.

"MY DEAR SIR—I wish I might say to you how gratefully and devotedly I am,

Yours,

HORACE GREELEY.

"General SAMUEL F. CARY, Cincinnati, Ohio."

GEO. O. DEISE, Esq., a well known Democrat and lawyer of Clinton county, Pa.; died a few days ago of consumption. He was 37 years of age; an able lawyer, eloquent orator and popular citizen.

IT is stated that GRATZ BROWN'S Thanksgiving proclamation was the briefest. He probably had the least to be thankful for.—*Herald.*

PRESIDENTIAL.

New York.

ALBANY, December 4.—The Electoral College to-day re-assembled and cast thirty-five ballots for Grant and Wilson. Fred. Douglass was appointed as messenger to convey the vote to Washington. Resolutions appropriate to the death of Horace Greeley were adopted.

Ohio.

COLUMBUS, December 4.—The Presidential Electors re-assembled in the Senate Chamber, at twelve o'clock A. M., and with a proper solemnity all cast their votes for U. S. Grant for President, and Henry Wilson for Vice President.

Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, December 4.—The Electoral College met to-day and cast the vote of the State for Governor Hendricks, of Indiana, for President, and Gratz Brown for Vice President. Mr. Gordon, of Maury, was chosen messenger to carry the vote to Washington. Resolution in honer of Mr. Greeley were adopted.

Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, December 4.—The Secretary of State to-day declared the Grant Electors elected in this State by majorities from three thousand to four thousand. The Electors met at the State House and cast the vote for Grant and Wilson.

Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 4.—The electors for President and Vice President assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives this morning at ten o'clock. Major Johathan W. Gordon was called to the Chair, and J. Y. Allison appointed Secretary. After some preliminary, the vote for Grant and Wilson was cast in the regular manner. Appropriate resolutions on the death of Horace Greeley were offered by Mr. Ellis and adopted with deep feeling.

Maryland.

ANAPOLIS, December 4.—The Electoral College met here to-day and cast a unanimous vote for Hendricks, of Indiana, for President. Suitable resolutions were prepared on the death of Horace Greeley.

Georgia.

ATLANTA, Ga., December 4.—The electoral vote of Georgia was cast to-day, with the following result:

For President—B. Gratz Brown, 6; Horace Greeley 3; Charles Jenkins, (Georgia) 1.

For Vice President—B. Gratz Brown, 5; General A. H. Colquit, (Georgia) 5; General N. P. Banks, (Mass.) 1.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, December 4.—The Electoral College of Massachusetts met to-day and cast a unanimous vote for Grant and Wilson.

Connecticut.

HARTFORD, December 4.—The Connecticut Presidential Electors met to-day and cast their votes for Grant and Wilson.

Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, December 4.—The Electoral College of Pennsylvania met at Harrisburg to-day and cast the vote of the State for Grant and Wilson.

New Hampshire.

CONCORD, December 4.—The Electoral College of this State to-day cast a unanimous vote for Grant and Wilson.

Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE, December 4.—The Presidential Electors met at Bristol this afternoon and cast the vote of the State Grant and Wilson.

The counsel for Henry Rogers, with District Attorney Britton, of Brooklyn, appeared before Gov. Hoffmand yesterday relative to a stay of proceedings in the case of Rogers. The Governor directed the preparations for the execution of the accused on Friday to be made, and if he saw reason to interpose he would telegraph from Sing Sing to-morrow.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 2.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In transmitting to you this, my fourth annual message, it is with thankfulness to the Giver of all good, that as a nation we have been blessed for the past year with peace at home, peace abroad, and a general prosperity, vouchsafed to but few people. With the exception of the recent devastating fire, which swept from the earth with a breath, as it were, millions of accumulated wealth in the City of Boston, there has been no overshadowing calamity to record. It is gratifying to note, how like their fellow citizens of the City of Chicago, under similar circumstances a year earlier, the citizens of Boston are rallying under their misfortunes, and the prospect that their energy and perseverance will overcome all obstacles and show the same prosperity soon that they would, had no disaster befallen them. Otherwise we have been free from pestilence, war and calamities which often overtake nations, and, as far as human judgment can penetrate the future, no cause seems to exist to threaten our present peace.

The Alabama Award.

When Congress adjourned, in June last, a question had been raised by Great Britain, and was then pending, which for a time seriously imperilled the settlement by friendly arbitration of the grave differences between this Government and that of her Brittanic Majesty, which, by the Treaty of Washington, had been referred to the Tribunal of Arbitration which had met at Geneva, in Switzerland. The arbitrators, however, disposed of the question, which had jeopardized the whole of the treaty and threatened to involve the two nations in the most unhappy relations toward each other, in a manner entirely satisfactory to this Government, and in accordance with the views and the policy which it had maintained. The tribunal, which had convened at Geneva in December, concluded its laborious session on the 14th day of September last, on which day, having availed itself of the discretionary power given to it by the treaty to award a sum in gross, it made its decision whereby it awarded the sum of fifteen millions five hundred thousand dollars in gold as the indemnity to be paid by Great Britain to the United States, for the satisfaction of all the claims referred to its consideration. This decision happily disposes of a long standing difference between the two Governments, and, in connection with another award made by the German Emperor, under a reference to him by the same treaty, leaves these two Governments without a shadow upon the frendly relations which it is my sincere hope may forever remain equally unclouded. The report of the agent to the United States appointed to attend the Geneva Tribunal, accompanied by the protocols of the proceedings of the arbitrators; the arguments of the counsel of both Governments; the award of the tribunal, and opinions given by the several Arbitrators, is transmitted herewith.

Thanks to the Arbitrators.

I have caused to be communicated to the heads of the three friendly Powers, who complied with the joint request made to them under the treaty, the thanks of this Government for the appointment of arbitrators made by them respectively, and also my thanks to the eminent personages named by them; and my approbation of the dignity, patience, impartiality, and great ability with which they discharged their arduous and high functions. Her Majesty's Government has communicated to me its appreciation by Her Majesty of the ability and indefatigable industry displayed by Mr. Adams, the arbitrator named on the part of this Government, during the protracted inquiries and discussions of the tribune. I cordially unite with Her Majesty in this appreciation. It is due to the agent of the United States before the tribunal to record my high appreciation of the marked ability, unwearied patience, and the prudence and discretion with which he has conducted the very responsible and delicate duties committed to him, as it is also due to the learned and eminent counsel who attended the tribunal on the part of this Government, to express my sense of the talents and wisdom which they brought to bear in the attainment of the result so happily reached.

Distribution of the Award to Claimants.

It will be the province of Congress to provide for the distribution among those who may be entitled to it of their respective shares of the money to be paid. Although the sum awarded is not payable until a year from the date of the award, it is deemed advisable that no time be lost in making a proper examination of the several cases in which indemnification may be due. I consequently recommend the creation of a Board of Commissioners for the purpose.

San Juan Boundary Decision.

By the thirty-fourth article of the Treaty of Washington the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain in their construction of the treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, defining the boundary line between their respective territories, were submitted to the arbitration and award of His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, to decide which of these claims is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the Treaty of 1846. His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, having been pleased to undertake the arbitration, has the earnest thanks of this Government and of the people of the United States for the labor, pains and care which he has devoted to the consideration of this long pending difference. I have caused an expression of my thanks to be communicated to His Majesty.

Mr. Bancroft, the representative of this Government at Berlin, conducted the case and prepared the statement on the part of the United States, with the ability that his past services justified the public in expecting at his hands. As a member of the Cabinet at the date of the treaty, which has given rise to the discussion between the two Governments; as the Minister to Great Britain, when the construction now pronounced unfounded was first advanced, and as the agent and representative of the Government to present the case and to receive the award, he has been associated with the question in all of its phases, and at every stage has manifested a patriotic zeal and earnestness in the maintenance of the claim of the United States; he is entitled to much credit for the success which has attended the submission.

After a partial investigation of the case, and of the statements of each party, His Majesty the Emperor, on the 21st day of October last, signed his award in writing, decreeing that the claim of the Government of the United States, that the boundary line between the territories of Her Brittanic Majesty and the United States should be drawn through the Haro channel, is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the Treaty concluded on the 15th of June, 1846, between the Governments of Her Brittanic Majesty and of the United States.

Quiet Possession of the Disputed Territory.

Copies of the case were presented on behalf of each government, and of the statement on the reply of each, and a translation of the award, are transmitted herewith. This award confirms the United States in their claim to the important archipelago of islands lying between the Continent and Vancouver's Island, which, for more than twenty-six years, ever since the ratification of the treaty with Great Britain, has been contested, and leaves us, for the first time in the history of the United States, as a nation without a question of disputed boundary between our territory and the possessions of Great Britain on this continent. It is my grateful duty to acknowledge the prompt and spontaneous action of Her Majesty's Government in giving effect to the award, in anticipation of any request from this Government; and that, before the reception in the stated States of the awards signed by the Emperor, Her Majesty had given instructions for the removal of her troops, which had been stationed there, and for the cessation of all exercise or claim of jurisdiction, so as to leave the United States in the executive possession of the lately disputed territory. I am gratified to be able to announce that the orders for the removal of the troops have been executed, and that the military possession and occupation of San Juan has ceased, and the Islands are now in the executive possession of the United States. It now becomes necessary to complete the survey and determination of that portion of the boundary line through the Haro Channel, upon which the Commission, which determined the remaining part of the line, were unable to agree. I recommend the appointment of a Commission to act jointly with the one which may be named by Her Majesty for that purpose, and the difficulties attending the determination of our admitted line of boundary.

The Alaska Island Boundaries.

After the occupation of the territory and its settlement by those owing allegiance to the respective Governments, it points to the importance of establishing, by natural objects or other movements' the actual line between the territory acquired by purchase from Russia and the adjoining possessions of Her Britanic Majesty. The region is now so sparsely occupied that no conflicting interests of individuals or of jurisdiction are likely to interfere to the delay or embrrassment of the actual location of the line. If increased population shall enter and occupy the territory, trivial contests of neighbors may again array the two Governments in antagonism. I, therefore, recommend the appointment of a Commission to act jointly with the one that may be appointed on the part of Great Britain, to determine the line between our territory of Alaska and the co-terminal possessions of Great Britain.

The Fisheries.

In my last annual message, I recommended the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the Treaty of Washington of May 8th, 1871, relating to the fisheries, and to other matter touching the relations of the United States toward the British North American possessions, to become operative as soon as the proper legislation should be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. That legislation on the part of Great Britain and its possessions had not then been had; and during the session of Congress a question was raised, which, for a time, raised a doubt whether any action by Congress in the direction indicated would become important. This question has since been disposed of, and I have received notice that the Imperial Parliament and other legislatures of the provincial government have passed laws to carry the provisions of the treaty (on the matters referred to into operation. I therefore recommend to you the early adoption of the legislation in the same direction necessary on the part of this Government.

The Joint Commission for determining the boundary line between the United States and British possessions between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains has organized and entered upon its work. It is desirable that the force be increased, in order that the completion of the survey and determination of the line may be the sooner attained. To this end, I recommend that a sufficient appropriation be made.

Foreign Relations.

With France, our earliest ally; Russia, the constant and steady friend of the United States; Germany, with whose Government and people we have so many causes of friendship, and so many common sympathies; and the other powers of Europe our relations are maintained on the most friendly terms. Since my last annual message the exchange has been made of the ratification of a treaty with the Austrian-Hungarian empire relating to naturalization; also of a treaty with the German empire respecting consuls and trade marks; also, of a treaty with Sweden and Norway relating to naturalization, all of which treaties have been duly proclaimed. Congress, at its last session, having made an appropriation to defray the expenses of the Commissioners on the part of the United States to the International Statistical Congress at St. Petersburg, the persons appointed in that character proceeded to their destination and attended the sessions of the Congress. Their report shall in due season be laid before you. This Congress meets at intervals of about three years, and has held its session in several of the countries of Europe. I submit to your consideration the propriety of extending an invitation to the Congress to hold its next meeting in the United States. The centennial celebration to be held in 1876, would afford an appropriate occasion for such a meeting.

The Vienna Exposition.

Preparations are making for the International Exposition to be held during the next year in Vienna, on a scale of very great magnitude. The tendency of these expositions is in the direction of advanced civilization and of the elevation of industry and of labor, and of the increase of human happiness, as well as of greater intercourse and good will between nations. As this Exposition is to be the first which will have been held in Eastern Europe, it is believed that American inventors and manufacturers will be ready to avail themselves of the opportunity for the presentation of their productions, if encouraged by proper aid and protection. At the last session of Congress, authority was given for the appointment of one or more agents to represent this Government at the Exposition. The authority thus given has been exercised, but in the absence of any appropriation, there is danger that the important benefits which the occasion offers will, in a large degree, be lost to the citizens of the United States. I commend this subject strongly to your consideration, and recommend that an adequate appropriation be made for the purpose. To further aid American exhibitors at the Vienna Exposition, I would recommend, in addition to an appropriation of money, that the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to fit up two naval vessels to transport, between our Atlantic cities and Trieste, or the most convenient port to Vienna and back, their articles for exhibition.

The Rio Grande Raids—The Mexican Border Commission.

Since your last session the President of the Mexican Republic, distinguished by his character and by his services to his country, has died. His temporary successor has now been elected with great unanimity by the people—a proof of confidence on their part in his patriotism and wisdom, which, it is believed, will be confirmed by the results of his administration. It is particularly desirable that nothing should be left undone by the Government of either Republic to strengthen their relations as neighbors and friends. It is much to be regretted that many lawless acts continue to disturb the quiet of the settlements on the border between our territory and that of Mexico, and that complaints of wrongs to American citizens in various parts of the country are made. The revolutionary condition in which the neighboring Republic has so long been involved, has in some degree contributed to this disturbance. It is to be hoped that with a more settled rule of order through the Republic, which may be expected from the present Government, the acts of which just complaint is made will cease. The proceedings of the Commission, under the Convention with Mexico of the 14th of July, 1868, on the subject of claims, have unfortunately been checked by an obstacle, for the removal of which measures have been taken by the two Governments, which, it is believed, will prove successful. The Commission appointed pursuant to the joint resolution of Congress of the 7th of May last, to inquire into the depredations on the Texan frontier have diligently made investigation in that quarter. Their report upon the subject will be communicated to you. Their researches were necessarily incomplete, partly on account of the limited appropriation made by Congress. Mexico, on the part of that Government, has appointed a similar commission, to investigate these outrages. It is not announced officially, but the press of the country states that the fullest investigation is desired, and that the co-operation of all parties concerned is invited to secure that end. I therefore recommend that a special appropriation be made at the earliest day practicable to enable the commissioners on the part of the United States to return to their labors.

The Cuban Struggle.

It is not without regret that I have again to announce a continuance of the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba. No advance toward the pacification of the discontented part has been made, while the insurrection has gained no advantages and exhibits no more of the element of power, or of the prospects of ultimate success, than were exhibited a year ago. Spain, on the other hand, has not succeeded in its suppression, and the parties stand apparently in the same relative attitude that they have occupied for a long time past. This contest has lasted now more than four years. Were it seen at a distance from our neighborhood, we might be indifferent to its result, although humanity could not be unmoved by many of its incidents wherever they might occur. It is, however, at our door. I cannot doubt that the continued maintenance of slavery in Cuba is among the strongest inducements to the continuance of this strife. A terrible wrong is the natural cause of a terrible evil. The abolition of slavery and the introduction of other reforms in the administration of the government in Cuba could not fail to advance the restoration of peace and order. It is greatly to be hoped that the present Liberal government in Spain will voluntarily adopt this view. The law of emancipation, which was passed more than two years since, has remained inoperative in the absence of regulations for its enforcement. It was a feeble step toward emancipation, but it was the recognition of right, and was hailed as such and exhibited in harmony with the sentiments of humanity and justice, and in sympathy with the other powers of the Christian and civilized world. Within the last few weeks the regulations for carrying out the law of emancipation have been announced, giving evidence of the sincerity of the intention of the present government to carry into effect the law of 1870. I have not failed to urge the consideration of the wisdom, the policy and the justice of a more effective system for the abolition of the great evil which oppresses a race, and continues a bloody and destructive contest close to our border, as well as the expedience and the justice of conceding reforms, the propriety of which is not questioned. I am deeply impressed with the conviction that the continuance of slavery is one of the most active causes of the continuance of the unhappy condition in Cuba. I regret to believe that the citizens of the United States, or those claiming to be such, are large holders in Cuba of what is there claimed as property and which is forbidden and denounced by the laws of the United States. They are thus, in defiance of the spirit of our own laws, contributing to the continuance of this distressing and sickening contest. In my last annual message I referred to this subject, and I again recommend such legislation as may be proper to denounce, and if not to prevent, at least to discourage American citizens from holding or dealing in slaves.

Central and South America.

It is gratifying to announce that the ratification of the Convention, conducted under the auspices of this Government, between Spain on the one part and the allied Republics of the Pacific on the other, providing for an armistice has been exchanged, and a copy of the instrument is herewith submitted. It is hoped that this may be followed by a permanent peace with the same parties.

The differences which at one time threatened the maintenance of peace between Brazil and the Argentine Republic, it is hoped, are in the way of satisfactory adjustment with these States; as with the Republics of Central and South America, we continue to maintain the most friendly relations. It is with regret, however, I announce that the government of Venezuela has made no further payments of the awards under the Convention of the 25th of April, 1866. That Republic is understood to be now almost if not quite tranquilized. It is hoped, therefore, that it will lose no time in providing for the unpaid balance of its debt to the United States, which, having originated in injuries to our citizens, and by Venezuelan authorities, and having been acknowledged pursuant to a treaty in the most solemn form known among nations, would seem to deserve a preference over debts of a different origin and contracted in a different manner. This subject is again recommended to the attention of Congress for such action as may be deemed proper